



The Antiquary.



MAY, 1899.

Notes of the Month.

A SALE of great interest is announced by Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson and Hodge for May 1. It will consist of a portion of what is known as the "Appendix" Ashburnham MSS., comprising 177 lots. The collection is especially rich in Early English MSS. There are no fewer than four fourteenth-century copies of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, besides two MSS. of *Piers Plowman*, two volumes made up of poems, etc., of Thomas Occleve, and three volumes folio, and one quarto, of collections for Urry's edition of Chaucer. Another MS. of exceptional interest to Englishmen is that of Sir Philip Sidney's *Arcadia*, dating from the sixteenth century, and comprising 283 leaves, but, unfortunately, imperfect at the beginning. There is also a MS. volume of 362 leaves of Lydgate's *Troy Book*, but portions of both beginning and end are missing. Further, there are three Wardrobe-books of Edward I., dating from 1299 to 1307; the earliest one is especially interesting, from the fact that it is more complete than that owned by the Society of Antiquaries, which was printed by John Topham in 1787. There is also the Wardrobe-book of Queen Eleanor, first consort of Edward I., dating from 1289 to 1291. Among the French MSS. may be mentioned a fifteenth-century *Froissart*, written in double columns, with rubrics and illuminated initials, in three volumes; a copy, which appears to be the only perfect one known, of *Le Roman de Parthenopex de Blois*; a thirteenth-century MS. of *Le Roman de Elmont et D'Agolant*;

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and many Bibles, psalters, missals, and books of hours of great interest. Finally, special mention may be made of the MS. of the later version of Wyclif's Bible, with which the sale closes; it comprises 404 leaves, and the very exhaustive collation is from the pen of the Rev. Professor Skeat. In 1620 this MS. was in the possession of William Davenport, of Bramhall, near Stockport, and the MS. was sold by one of the heirs, and is the last MS. bought by the late Earl of Ashburnham.



A satisfactory report was presented at the annual meeting of the Surrey Archaeological Society, held in the new headquarters at the Castle Arch, Guildford. The financial position of the society has considerably improved, chiefly owing to the increase in the number of new members, a most encouraging feature of the year's work. Referring to the removal of the headquarters of the society to Guildford, the report states that the society has incurred a heavy expense by reason of the great alterations necessary in adapting the interior of the premises to its purposes, and the greater part of the special fund raised to meet this and other expenses incident to the removal has had to be devoted to the settlement of the builder's account. Even with this deduction from the fund, which now amounts to £258 11s., the Council has been enabled with the residue to carry out much in the way of purchasing show-cases and binding the books in the library that would otherwise have proved a serious burden on the society's usual resources. The above sum, however, still falls short by £40 of the sum originally asked for, viz., £300, and the Council will be glad to receive any further subscriptions that may be forwarded to the fund.



Speaking at the annual meeting of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society, at Winchester, on April 4, Lord Northbrook, the president, said he was strongly opposed to the museum which it was suggested should be erected in the grounds of Wolvesey Palace in connection with the King Alfred Millenary. He thought the ecclesiastical position of Wolvesey ought to be preserved, because it was quite possible that in the future it might again become the residence of the Bishop

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of Winchester. He had not seen yet what particular advantage would be gained by Winchester or Hampshire by having the museum at Wolvesey, and he did not know what they could put in it. It would be a heavy expense to keep up, and in addition to that, Winchester was so near London that, if they were to have an archaeological museum containing Saxon antiquities, it ought to be at London, where it would be properly kept, and with some prospect of success.



We are indebted to Mr. R. H. Murray, of Worcester, for the photo of Richard Baxter's chair, reproduced below. It was used by that



famous divine in Kidderminster Church when he was incumbent of the parish, before he left the Anglican Church. Mr. Murray says: "I think this chair would date from about 1600; I am quite sure the engraved words and figures on the chair-back were not put there till many, say fifty, years after the chair was made. It still stands in the chancel of the parish church."

The *Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institution* for 1896 (Washington, Government Printing Office, 1898) has reached us. It is a portly volume of more than 700 pages. The General Appendix, which fills more than six-sevenths of the volume, contains a large number of valuable scientific papers. Among those relating to archaeology and anthropology may be named a lavishly-illustrated "Account of an Expedition to the Pueblo Ruins near Winslow, Arizona, in 1896," by J. Walter Fewkes; "Bows and Arrows in Central Brazil," by Hermann Meyer, also well illustrated; and "Was Primitive Man a Modern Savage?" by Talcott Williams.



The annual meeting of the Shropshire Archaeological and Natural History Society will be held at the Shire Hall, Shrewsbury, on Monday, May 15, at 2.30 p.m. The chair will be taken by Lord Barnard, the president, and Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, Assistant Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries, will be present specially to speak upon future excavations at Wroxeter. The meeting will be an important one, as it will probably lead to a Wroxeter Excavation Fund being formed, and will be the beginning of an earnest effort to thoroughly excavate the site of Uriconium. Mr. Wright's previous excavation, some forty years ago, was but a very partial one; but, judging by the results then produced, the greatest hopes may be formed of the results likely to ensue, when a thorough and scientific excavation is made, under the direction of such eminent Roman antiquaries as Mr. Fox and Mr. St. John Hope.



We are indebted to the courtesy of the Hon. Secretary of the Newcastle Society of Antiquaries for an advance copy of *A Short Descriptive Guide to the Keep and Great Gate of the Castle of Newcastle-upon-Tyne*. It contains a short sketch of the history of the castle by Sheriton Holmes, a description of and guide to the antiquities in the keep, a description of the "Black Gate" museum by R. Oliver Heslop, and, lastly, a guide to the antiquities and museum of the society. The latter is to be congratulated not only on the extent and value of its museum, but on the singular appropriateness of its housing.

The little book, which is published by the society at the modest price of 4d., has a number of illustrations of varying degrees of merit.



The Sheriff of Argyllshire, Mr. James Ferguson, has just completed his selection of extracts from the archives at the Hague and the Scottish Church at Rotterdam, dealing with the history of the Scots Brigade in the service of the United Netherlands, 1572-1782, and is to publish the first volume at an early date under the auspices of the Scottish History Society. This is a work similar to what Mr. Mackay, of Hereford, has done for the Green Brigade of Gustavus Adolphus, and Father Forbes-Leith for the famous Scots Guards of France.



The annual meeting of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archaeological Society was held at the Old Town Hall Library, Leicester, the Rev. A. M. Rendell in the chair. Mr. Mawbey, the Borough Surveyor, read a paper on two underground passages lately discovered in the Newarke, one 38 feet long, 11 feet wide, and 8 feet 9 inches high, and the other 2 feet wide and 3 feet high. The forty-fourth annual report was then read, which showed that seven new members had joined during the past year. The Corporation have undertaken the care of the Roman pavement under the Great Central Railway Station, Leicester. Another Roman pavement, 14 feet square, and divided into nine octagonal portions, the central figure being a peacock with a spread tail, has been discovered near St. Nicholas' Church. Some fragments of pottery, and coins of Severus Alexander and Victorinus, were found near the pavement. A gold torque, weighing over a pound, with beautiful wreath-work on it, was found in a new fox-earth in Charnwood Forest. The report concludes with a list of the church restorations and repairs, etc., done in Leicestershire during the year 1898.



A somewhat unusual application was made to the Worshipful Chancellor Ferguson, M.A., F.S.A., at the Consistory Court of the Diocese of Carlisle, held at the Cathedral a few weeks ago. This was an application for a faculty authorizing and confirming the sale by the

Rev. E. Walker, B.A., Rector of Bewcastle, and churchwardens, to the Carlisle Free Library and Museum Committee, of an altar recently found in Bewcastle Churchyard, and dedicated to Cocidius by Peltrasius Maximus. The Judge said: "This is an application by the Vicar and churchwardens of St. Cuthbert's Church, Bewcastle, for the confirmation of the sale by them to the authorities of the Museum in Tullie House, Carlisle, of a Roman altar dedicated to Cocidius by Peltrasius, the tribune at Bewcastle. This is the fourth altar dedicated to Cocidius that has been found there. One of them was found so long ago as the last century, and came into the collection of Roman sculptured stones formed by my learned predecessor in this seat, the Rev. Joseph Dacre Carlyle. That collection is now in Tullie House, and the new find will thus rejoin its ancient comrade. I am glad to get this new find put into safety, for out of eight Roman inscribed stones previously found at Bewcastle, only two can now be traced, viz., the one in Tullie House from Chancellor Carlyle's collection, and one at Naworth Castle, both altars, dedicated to Cocidius. The fate of these stones seems to have been to be kept carefully by the clergymen during whose incumbency they were found, so long as they lived, while on death they were claimed and taken away or sold by the relatives. It is well, therefore, that it should be known that Roman altars belonging to a church, as having been found in it or in its churchyard, are protected by the Consistory Courts, just as much as disused Church plate, pictures, ships' logs (e.g., that of the *Mayflower*), etc., and cannot be alienated without a faculty. The costs in this case will be paid by the purchasers."



An experiment of some interest to anthropologists is being tried by Professor Merkel, the director of the anatomical school at Göttingen. He has procured the head of a peasant of Lower Saxony, exhumed in the neighbourhood, and dating from the seventh or eighth century of our era. With the assistance of a sculptor, he proposes to build upon the skull layers of tissue representing the vanished flesh, following the method prescribed by Professor Kollmann, of Basle. It is hoped thus to reconstruct a tolerably

correct type of early Teutonic humanity, and the bust when completed will be placed in the Archaeological Museum at Göttingen.



Mr. H. Hammans, of Clatford Lodge, Andover, Hants, writes: "In the February number of the *Antiquary* you give a cut of a pair of wafer-irons, with some most interesting letterpress in connection with holy bread, etc. By this post I send you what are called here, and have been so for many past years, 'Passover cakes.' So long as I can recollect anything, my family and many others have purchased these cakes in Lent. They are made in the village of Wherwell by an old woman, and the tongs have been handed down in the family for many generations, in all probability since Henry VIII.'s time. The late Rev. H. Clutterbuck, shortly before his death, published here a brief history of Wherwell Priory since its foundation. There can be little doubt the tongs are 'wafer-irons,' and were so used in Roman Catholic times at the Priory. Formerly the I.H.S. was very distinct; the H. seems now to be worn away from the iron. Your cut shows the iron very much larger than the iron at Wherwell." The unleavened cakes so obligingly sent by our correspondent are extremely interesting. They are thin, and about $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. One side is adorned with curved patterns of marked beauty and grace; the other side is smooth, with the initials I. and S. plainly discernible.



At a Council meeting of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society, which was held in Bristol on March 25, Sir Brooke Kay, Bart. (chairman), presiding, the hon. secretary, Rev. W. Bazeley, was authorized to make some excavations at Llanthony Priory, Gloucester, as the site is likely to be acquired very shortly for railway extensions, and a small sum was voted for that purpose. Some excavations may also be made at an early date at Hales Abbey. It was decided to hold the spring meeting on May 25. The Norman church at Avoning, Chavenage House, and Beverstone Castle will be visited. The summer meeting, extending over three days, will probably take place during the third week in August, when Fairford will be the headquarters. A large gathering is expected.

Mr. Charles Wise is about to issue an exact transcription of *The Comptus of Kettering for the Year 1292*, from a roll of the manors which belonged to the Abbey of Burgh (Peterborough) at that date. This roll was found amongst the documents preserved in Rockingham Castle, and is a fine example of thirteenth-century penmanship. A facsimile reproduction of a portion of the Comptus will be given as a frontispiece.

In the introduction an attempt will be made to portray the social conditions which prevailed in Kettering at the date of the Comptus, especially in connection with the Kettering labourer and artisan.

The Comptus will be printed in record type, in order to give a clear idea of the kind of mediæval short-hand used in keeping manorial accounts. It will be accompanied by a page-for-page translation.

The subscription price is 12s. 6d., and subscribers' names will be received by Messrs. Goss, High Street, Kettering.



Another work of interest announced for early publication by subscription (at 5s.) is *The Archaeological Discoveries in Derbyshire of Mr. Micah Salt, of Buxton*, collated and completed by Mr. Turner, F.S.S. Mr. Salt's work included the examination of barrows, caves, and rock shelters in the Peak district, and many hundreds of objects were found illustrating the Romano-British and prehistoric periods of life in Derbyshire. The book, which will be well illustrated, will be published by Mr. C. F. Wardley, of Buxton.



Professor Flinders Petrie, writing to the *Athenæum* from Rome on the position of the recently discovered black stones of the Forum, says:

"The square of black pavement lies almost in the axis of S. Adriano, which is on the site of the Curia, the centre being only about 2 feet to the east of that. And the jointing of the stones is parallel to that axis. Thus the black square may be defined as being in front of the Senate House, and parallel with it, adjoining the Via Sacra.

"Now, the Senate House is doubtless the successor of an open-air place of assembly, which is the centre of life in Aryan communities. In those Italian towns which have retained the plan of the primitive town,

the piazza on the site of the old public place regularly adjoins the main street, as the Senate House faces on the Via Sacra.

"And we well know how—as, for instance, in the Isle of Man—the legal assembly must on each occasion be begun in the open air, even though it be always adjourned for convenience to a building to continue its sitting.

"It would, therefore, be in accord with well-known usages if, after the Senate House was built, the opening ceremonies of each meeting needed to be performed on a spot of the old assembly-ground by the Sacred Way, although the meeting were practically held in the house. Some such spot, therefore, as the square of black stones might well be expected as a sacred site in that position.

"On mentioning this to Prof. Lanciani, he saw no objection, except that the black colour of the stones might be regarded as unlucky. But we hardly know the reasons which might influence the choice of stone.

"The connection of the square of stones with the Senate House can hardly be accidental, and it certainly points to an explanation which accords well with usages known elsewhere."



Ancient Kentish Colonies in Anglo-Saxon England.

By T. W. SHORE, F.G.S.

I.—SETTLEMENTS IN THE THAMES VALLEY.

FIN considering this subject it is important to bear in mind that the Teutonic inhabitants of Kent were known by various names. They were commonly called Jutes, a name as old as the time of Bede, but they are also mentioned by early writers under the following names:—

Euti, in early German literature, quoted by Meitzen; Giotas in Ethelwerd's Chronicle, about 950, in which, writing of old Anglia, he says that it lies between the Saxons and the Giotae. They are called Goths in William of Malmesbury's Chronicle, and also

Geats, Jotas, Ytas and Gutæ in Anglo-Saxon and contemporary literature. It is also certain that the Jutes of Kent were closely allied to, if not identical with, the old Frisians.* Even to this day traditions of Hengest, similar to the Kentish traditions, survive in Schleswig. The Goths were also known as Gotas and Godas.† Ascer tells us that King Alfred's mother was a Goth by nation, and was "descended from the Goths and Jutes of the Isle of Wight." Kent itself, and the parts of England to which Kentish settlements can be traced, either has, or formerly had, many place-names made up from the words Gota or Goda.

It is also necessary to bear in mind the customs of the early Kentish people, the peculiarities in their local administration and in their earliest laws.

Foremost among these customs was that of partible inheritance or gavelkind, which has survived in parts of Kent until our own time. Under this custom the lands and other property were divided at the holder's death among his sons equally, with the provision that the youngest son took the homestead by making compensation to his brothers. Kentish gavelkind therefore included within its provisions a junior right. This leads to the consideration of the custom of the exclusive junior right commonly called Borough English, under which the youngest son became the sole heir of his father. This custom has been pronounced by our judges as closely allied to gavelkind and of like origin with it.‡ It has survived in some few boroughs, and in many ancient manors unto the present time, but chiefly in Sussex and in those counties nearest to Kent. In a general way it may be said that the further we go from Kent, the less numerous become the instances in any county of the survival of junior right, a circumstance which points to Kentish gavelkind as its probable origin.

The most natural opening for colonization by the ancient people of Kent was up the Thames valley. The river itself was a natural channel for their migrations to any new

* See *Journal Anthropological Institute*, vol. vi.

† Bosworth, *Anglo-Saxon Dictionary*.

‡ See *Robinson on Gavelkind*, edited by C. I. Elton.

districts open to colonization. They could transport themselves and their belongings by water up the river from their own kingdom as far westward as Gloucestershire, and as the Kentish kings often contracted matrimonial and other alliances with the royal families of Wessex and Mercia, it is probable that political considerations did not prevent Kentish emigration. Such settlements were no doubt first formed nearest home, in Middlesex and Surrey. That the parts of these counties north and south of London were at least partly peopled by settlers from Kent is more than probable from the survival of Kentish and Jutish place-names, and the survival also of Kentish customs in these districts. Such ancient names as Kenton, on the Archbishop of Canterbury's ancient manor of Harrow, and Kentish Town are significant. The custom of gavelkind survived at Kentish Town until modern time.* It also survived in the manors of Canbury or Canonbury, Stepney, Mile End, Newington - Barrow, otherwise Highbury, Islington, Hornsey, and Hackney.† The Kentish custom was thus the common custom in a series of manors bounding London on the north and east. There can be little doubt that, until the time of King John, when the Archbishop obtained a royal license empowering him to change his lands from gavelkind to feudal tenure,‡ it prevailed on his great manors of Harrow and Hayes.

Junior right or Borough English survived until modern time on the manors of Lambeth, Vauxhall, Croydon, Streatham, Leigham Court, Fulham, Battersea, Wandsworth, Wimbledon, Barnes, Shene or Richmond, Isleworth, Sion, Ealing, Acton, and Earl's Court. London was thus bounded on the south and west by many manors which retained this custom. On some of these the custom was strictly Borough English, or limited to the youngest son. On the manor of Lambeth, in default of sons, the descent was to the daughters equally, a variation which was apparently an intermediate stage between junior right solely and gavelkind. At Fulham, Wimbledon, Battersea, Wandsworth, Barnes and Richmond, the junior

* See *Robinson on Gavelkind*, edited by C. I. Elton.

† *Ibid.*

‡ *Lambarde, Perambulation of Kent.*

right passed to females as well as males, lineal and collateral.*

Higher up the river, at Thames Ditton, the gavelkind custom probably survived until the Norman Conquest, for Domesday Book tells us of a Saxon holder there who at his death divided his lands among his three sons.

In considering the evidence of place-names in connection with Kentish settlements, it is important to look to the ancient form of those names as they occur in the Anglo-Saxon charters, in Domesday Book, and in later ancient records. We meet with Kent or Ken names, and also Gode and Geat names in these records. Gætenesheale is the earliest name of the manor now known as Vauxhall, and it occurs in a Saxon charter, dated A.D. 957.† It was the hall or court-place of a settlement there of Geats or Jutes. Close by is Kennington, and on the other side of the river, Kensington, both ancient names. Higher up we come to Tuicanham now Twickenham, Kenton now Kempton, and Iccenesford a name of Saxon date now apparently lost. Yeeding, anciently Gedding in the parish of Hayes, is a name derived from a settlement of Godas or Geddingas.‡ It was from early time, part of the Archbishop's land. Kent-town occurs near East Molesey. Kentes, and Godan pearruc,§ or inclosure of Godas, are found near Maidenhead; Godards tything near Reading; Kentwood near Pangbourn, and Cunningham on the Oxfordshire side of the river; Chenetebarie, now Kintbury, on the Kennet; Godenden near Goring; Chenore, now Lewknor, in Oxfordshire; Maccanige, now Mackney, near Wallingford; Gatacliffe, terram Gode,|| and Kennisters below Abingdon; Kennington; Geatescumb or Geaterscomb,¶ Godestowe and Godefordes eyt, near Oxford; Kentwines-treow,** at Shifford on the Thames; Kenningworth, an ancient name for part of Longworth; Chenfield, now Clanfield;

* *Robinson on Gavelkind*, edited by C. I. Elton.

† *Cartularium Saxonicum*, edited by W. de Gray Birch, iii. 189.

‡ *Ibid.*, i. 104.

§ *Chron. Monasterium de Abingdon*, edited by J. Stevenson, i. 98.

|| *Ibid.*, ii. 58.

¶ *Dugdale, Monasticon*, i. 515.

** *Codex Diplomaticus*, No. 717.

and Kencote in Oxfordshire. The manor of Hochenarton, now Hook Norton, was held by brothers at the time of the Conquest, as recorded in Domesday Book, as were also the manors of Hevaford in north Berkshire, and a manor near the Isis at Cerney near Cirencester, so that the custom of partible inheritance survived at these places as it also did on two manors in the valley of the Thame. It is probable also that the somewhat numerous entries concerning manors in Berkshire and Oxfordshire which were held collectively by thanes or freemen, in the time of Edward the Confessor, such as that of Brize Norton, held by fourteen thanes, are examples of the survival of the gavelkind custom among collateral relatives. We know from a later document that it survived in a modified form to a much later date, at Binsey near Oxford, where centuries later we find that some of the cottars paid landgafol as in Kent, and the youngest son succeeded to the homestead.* The Kentish colonists apparently remembered their national hero Hengest, and gave his name to some of their new localities as English colonists now do with the names Wellington and Nelson. The name Hengestesie, now Hinksey, near Oxford, and Hengest-vallem, or Hengestes cumbe at Scypforda higher up on the Oxfordshire side of the river, occur in Saxon charters. Hengest was not a hero to people of Saxon descent, but only to Jutes and Frisians. One of the distinctive characteristics of the people of Kent was their personal freedom. It was claimed as the Kentish man's birth-right that he was personally free, and the Common Law recognised this claim to the extent that it could be pleaded against a liability for services to which villeins elsewhere were liable. The Domesday Survey shows that Kent contained a large number of cottars, who were also free men, and as such paid their hearth pence and Peter's pence. As we examine the Domesday records of manors adjacent to and near the river Thames, we find some remarkable traces of cottars in proceeding up the valley. They are numerous in the Middlesex and Surrey manors. In Berkshire we find that

* *Consuetudines de Binsey* in the *Antiquities of Oxford*, by Wood, edited by Clarke, i. 323.

they existed in some of the hundreds only, one of which was that of Benes, which included Cookham, and was close to the place known as Kentes in medieval records, and that mentioned in a Saxon charter as "Godan pearroc" or the enclosure of the Goths. The cottars are mentioned in north Berkshire, in the hundreds near Wallingford, and also in two others along the upper part of the river Ock. In addition to these records of cottars, we find that some are mentioned at places having cot-names, and we find also many places with cot-names, at which they had either died out, or been reduced at the time of the Survey to the condition of borderers. Although not mentioned, they survived to a much later date at Binsey. Cottars are not mentioned in Domesday Book in Oxfordshire, but they are recorded in many Oxfordshire manors near the Thames, in the Hundred Rolls, as for example at Bampton, which contains the hamlet of Cote, remarkable for its late traces of an agricultural community. The early nomenclature of places along the Thames is remarkable also for the series of river island names ending in ige, ie, ey, a suffix met with from the mouth of the river as far up as Cerney and Amney, near Cirencester. These names could not have been derived from later Scandinavian settlements, for some of them occur in charters older than the date of the Danish inroads. The hythe and hurst names of Kent also occur here and there along the river from its mouth to the country above Oxford.

The researches made on English dialects by Prince Lucien L. Bonaparte,* and by Mr. A. J. Ellis† agree in showing that the dialect of the south-eastern part of England extends up the Thames valley into Oxfordshire.

There is evidence that the name of the city of Oxford was derived from the colonists who settled near it. It is in part a colonial name. This may be seen by considering the evidences of the Kentish migrations up the river, in connection with the boundaries of the land given to Abingdon Abbey by Ceadwalla, King of the West Saxons. These

* *Philological Soc. Transactions*, 1875-76.

† *Early English Pronunciation—Map of English Dialect Districts*.

are recited as ancient boundaries, even in A.D. 955, in a charter of Edred. They are not stated in the charter of Edwy in A.D. 952, but three years later are mentioned in Edred's charter, as if apparently to settle some disputed points. A sufficient number of the ancient place-names thus recited can still be identified, as to leave no doubt about the land it describes. The name Eoccenesforda, in this charter, has hitherto been thought to have been that of a ford over the Ock near Abingdon; but this is a mistake. The original Abbey of Abingdon was, according to tradition, which appears to be well-founded, situated two or three miles north of the present town, at the south-west corner of Bagley Wood, where its site is marked on the large scale Ordnance maps. Eoccenes and Eccen, which have been considered as referring exclusively to the river Ock, are names of more general import, and denote places of early colonists, from eoc, A.-S. "increased," and ken or cen, the Old Frisian for kin or tribe. There is evidence of another kind to show that the river Ock was a boundary line of settlement. A similar name occurs in the boundaries of Ashbury and of Wellsford, both in Berkshire,* and the significant name "eccantreo" occurs in Worcestershire.†

The Abingdon Abbey charter shows that Eoccenforda was a ford over one of the branches of the Isis on the west of Oxford. That such a ford, and others mentioned in the charter, do not exist now is not important, for if the river could again be spread out as it was in Anglo-Saxon time, instead of being confined to deepened channels by centuries of improvement, the fords would again be formed by geological action.

The charter traces the boundaries from Eoccenforda along Eoccenes, now Oseney, to the abbey ditch, thence past several marks to guman grave, now perhaps Stone Copse, thence . . . to bromcumbes heafod, now Broom Hill . . . thence to abendune, i.e., the down of the original abbey, thence . . . to bacganlea, now Bagley, thence to Stanford, now Sandford, where the geological outcrop of the Coralline Oolite must have made a natural stone ford, thence to mægthford, the ford of the tribe, now called Heyford, on

* *Codex Diplomaticus*, Nos. 1148 and 1198.

† *Ibid.*, No. 570.

the Oxfordshire side, and which crossed at Kennington island, thence up the mid-stream of the Thames above the large island "on clearanwyllan," i.e. at the mouth of the Cherwell, thence . . . along "bacganbroc," the Backer lake of Oxford medieval records* to "heafod's oran," the great sandhills of these records, thence past "tydewaldes rylle," a name which survived perhaps in that of Welshman's mede, thence up the stream by "geafling lace," and "lang lace" (the forked-shaped lake and the long lake), whose positions can be identified where the river islands of these shapes now are, and on by Occenes grestun dic, i.e., the ditch which bounded West Oseney mede on the west, along Eccen, i.e., the northern boundary of West Oseney, again to Eoccenforda. Any one who will follow these boundaries, proceeding up stream from Sandford, will see that it is not possible the charter can refer to any other land than this close to Oxford.

The change in pronunciation from Eoccenes to Oseney is not difficult to understand in the light of modern researches.† The name Oxnea for Oseney occurs in a charter as late as the thirteenth century.‡ As the charter of Edred mentions Eoccenforda in Ceadwalla's boundaries, that name must be as old as Ceadwalla's time, or 200 years older than the name Oxnaforda of King Alfred. In Ceadwalla's time the people who had given Hengestesie and Eoccenes their names were probably still traditionally remembered as having come from that part of England from which alone the name Hengest could have come, i.e., from Kent.

In the Tribal Hidage of early Anglo-Saxon records we read of settlers known as the Myrcna, Wokensemna, Westerna, Pecsetna, Elmedsetna, Wixna, Chilternsetna, Est Sexena, West Sexena, Suth Sexena, and others. Similarly we find in the Saxon charters references to Oxna-dunes in Worcestershire, Oxna-feld in Somersetshire, Oxna-healon in Gloucestershire, Oxnai, now Oxney, on the west side of Romney Marsh, Oxna-ford on the Nadder-stream in Wiltshire, and Oxna-ford, now Oxford. From these

* *Antiquities of Oxford*, by Wood, edited by Clarke, map.

† *Early English Pronunciation*, by A. J. Ellis.

‡ *The Early History of Oxford*, by J. Parker, p. 359.

names it is difficult to understand how such a word as Oxna can have any other significance than that of a tribal name or name of a human settlement. There are also some old place-names containing the word "oxen," apparently derived from eoccen, in various English counties, such as Oxenford in Somersetshire; but I am not aware that there are any, except in districts near which Jutish or Frisian settlements can be shown to have occurred. The place names Oxenvad and Oxby are met with in north Schleswig and Jutland, a circumstance which points to the Frisian origin of the word "oxen" in place names.

If the time should come when the representation of an ox in the arms of the city of Oxford should give place to that of an early colonist of Jutish or Frisian descent, the change would, I think, be one in the direction of accuracy, and be a more worthy emblem of the origin of the name of the University city.



A Sacristan's Common-place Book.

By F. J. SNELL, M.A.

DULVERTON, in Somerset, rejoices in a line of hereditary sacristans, of which the present representative will probably be the last, unless, indeed, he follows the example of the philosophic Sir Thomas Browne, and changes his mind on the subject of matrimony. Until recently this affable bachelor had in his possession several ancient manuscript books, which had reached the extreme of dilapidation and become illegible through time. They had accordingly been burnt. He, however, preserved one—a sort of commonplace book belonging to his grandfather, in which entries of births, marriages, and burials are mingled with model sums in arithmetic and miscellaneous items neither official nor scientific. Particulars as to the writer and his relations occupy, not unsuitably, the inside of the cover. Of himself he gives the following account :

"Thos Son of Rob' and Elizth Sayer Born

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at Ford Mill in the Parish of Bampton Dec^r 2^d 1754 & Baptized at Petton Chapel Dec^r 27: 1754."

The Sayers appear to have been well-to-do in the first half of the seventeenth century, judging from the next record :

"Sayer's Monument in Morebath Church Extracted 28th Oct. 1797. Near this place lieth the body of Mr Nicholas Sayer, who died 13th Nov^r 1733 in the 70th year of his Age. Also Mary his Daughter who died 23rd January 1704 in the 13th year of her Age. And Sayer Bere, grandson of the above Mr Nicholas Sayer, died 26th May 1737, Aged one Year and one Month. Also Mary the Wife of the above Nicholas Sayer Gent,* who died 1st December, 1740, Aged 69."

The following are loose entries :

"Brother John born 1737 & died April 1799.

"James born 1739 & died June 18 1801."

There are particulars also of the family events of the great land-owners in the neighbourhood, e.g. :

"Jno Dyke Acland, Esq. Married Jany 7, 1771. . . . The above Jno Dyke Acland born Feby 18, 1746 and Died Nov^r 15, 1778. The old Sir Thos Dyke Acland, Father of the above Jno Dyke Acland, born Aug 14, 1722 and died Feby 24, 1785."

Somewhat similarly he records the vicissitudes of the principal house of the locality, the seat of the Earls of Carnarvon.

"Pixton Old House, pull'd down for re-building Feby 1803. Dimensions of some of y^e Rooms as Measured by Hayes Jany 25, 1803. Breakfast Room 20 ft. 4 in. by 17 ft. 6 in. Dining Room 30 ft. 6 in. by 16 ft. 0 in. Drawing Room 17 ft. 7 in. by 17 ft. 6 in. Height of Ceilings 10 ft. 8 in. Pixton New House Finish'd Building by Hassell of Exeter Nov^r 1805. Dining Room 30 ft. 4 in. by 22 ft. 0 in. Drawing Room 32 ft. 3 in. by 20 ft. 6 in. Library 30 ft. 4 in. by 15 ft. 6 in. Ceiling 14 ft. 11 in. High. Ten Bed Rooms 11 ft. 0 in. Nine Atticks 8 fit for Beds, Ceilings 9 ft. 0 in."

Bells and their measurements claimed Sayer's attention, and he managed to ascertain the proportions of the bells of Exeter Cathedral.

* Mentioned as "Nicholas Sayer, Esq." in Prince's *Worthies of Devon*.

"Great Bell St. Petters Exeter 6 ft. 2 in. over the Brim & 6 ft. 2 in. from y^e Brim to y^e top of y^e Cannon & 3 ft. over y^e Crown. It was removed from Llandaf 1404 & cast affresh 1676: St. Petter's Church Exeter 58 by 50 Pace's."

There is an entry also relating to the bells of his native parish :

"Bampton Tower five Bells cast into Six in y^e Year 1800."

The book contains two newspaper cuttings relating to events at Dulverton and the great outside world, which seem to have excited special interest. One concerns "mine Host":

"On the 20th instant at Dulverton, after a long and painful illness, sincerely regretted by a numerous acquaintance, Mr. Robert Melton, aged 48, who for many years kept the Red Lion in that town. He was a sergeant in the Dulverton Troop of Yeomanry Cavalry. His remains were interred at Bampton with military honours."

The other extract, too, deals with frail mortality :

"*Brighton, Oct. 21.*—Yesterday Mr. Izard, a most extensive merchant in this town, and well known for his having accumulated a large fortune within the last 25 years, died suddenly. Three weeks antecedent to his death, he called upon a clergyman of the dissenting persuasion, with a request that he would preach a sermon from the 13th chapter of Judges, verses 21, 22, and 23; at the same time observing that an impression had been made upon his mind ten years ago, respecting that part of the Bible. Accordingly, on Sunday last the Rev. Mr. Faithful preached a sermon from these words which Mr. Izard listened to with much attention, and on his conclusion fell into a fit which terminated his existence."

In 1814 an extraordinary sensation was caused at Dulverton by the intervention of a prospective mother-in-law at a critical moment in the life of Thomas Oxenham.

" Thos Oxenham & Elizth Hembu-

son Banns were forbid in Dulverton Church Jan^y 16, 1814 by Elizth Hembuson's mother, she being under Age. The Banns were published again in the Afternoon for y^e 1st time.

" Thos Oxenham & Elizth Hembuson
Jan^y 31, 1814."

The latter part of the entry evidently refers to the wedding, which took place on the Monday after the banns were called for the third time. Under the circumstances, it was perhaps wise not to postpone the event, or Elizabeth's mother might have again changed her mind.

You will wish to know something of Sayer's philosophy. Then here is some of it in the honey-sweet form of poesy :

"ON A WATCH.

" Could but our Tempers move like this Machine
not urg'd by Passion nor delay'd by spleen,
& true to Nature's regulating Power,
by Virtue's acts distinguishing each Hour,
Then Health and Joy would follow as they ought
the Laws of motion and y^e Laws of Thought,
sweet Health to pass the present Moments o'er,
And everlasting joy when time shall be no more."

And again :

" The peace of God and a quiet life,
A contented mind and a loving wife;
With plenty of friends and money in store,
What can a man desire more?"

What, indeed !

The writer's acquaintance with literature is not sufficient to enable him to say whether each or either of these compositions is original. Sayer, however, was a bit of a poet as well as arithmetician. In the following problem, elaborated for the profit of the then rising but now risen and fallen generation, he shows himself in the dual capacity.

" There was a Wager laid between a Taylor and a Gentleman's Servant. The Taylor was to gather 100 Stones laid a Yard a Sunder and the other was to run to Miles and Half Reckoned from the Place where the Basket was to Stand and back again. I was an Eye Witness of the Performance. The Taylor Won the Wager. Now let us see how many Miles the Taylor Run in gathering up the Stones.

" An Hundred Stones right in a Line
Exact a Yard a Sunder,
How many miles then doth he go,
That gathers up that Number ?"

101
101
202
100
2)20200
176/0)10100(5
880
1300
FACIT 5 Miles 1300 Yards.

Midmar Castle.

By MISS E. C. VANSITTART.

MIN olden days, what we now call Aberdeenshire was known as two distinct earldoms, viz., Mar and Buchan. The rivers Dee and Don bounded the former, which, for convenience, was again subdivided into parishes. Of these, Cromer (the folds of Mar) lay to the west; in the centre, Midmar (plain of Mar); to the north came Braemar (hills of Mar); while the hill of Fare—the highest in the neighbourhood—bounded the plain of Mar to the south. All varieties of soil are there found, from the yellow clay of Corsindae to the peat earth of the glens and mosses, whence all the springs derive their rich brown tint.

Fifteen miles of turnpike road from Aberdeen, or nine from the railway-station at Drum, must be traversed ere cultivation begins to fade into moorland—purple with heather at the time of my visit—and the hills to disclose deep glens, where larch, beech, birch, and sycamore help to relieve the sombre hue inseparably connected with fir-clad regions. There, on a slight eminence, its slate-gray turrets alone peeping above the trees, stands Midmar Castle.

We take a sharp turn out of the high-road into the gloom of over-arching trees, pass some farm buildings to the right, and then a bridge carries the avenue up a very steep hill, and the white “harled” walls of Midmar Castle stand before us. Tradition would have us believe that the castle owes its origin, early in the fourteenth century, to Sir William Wallace, who, while Governor of Scotland, built it as a hunting-seat for his friend, Sir Thomas Longeville. Ancient deeds, however, testify that in the year 1368 there was a *dissentio proverba* (a quarrel confined to words) between John Brown of Midmar and Robert d’Umfraville, who were required each to find bail for 500 lib. Scots (£40 13s. 4d.)—an enormous sum in those days—to keep the peace. The security for Brown was the Earl of Mar; that for d’Umfraville was Lord Keith, *Dome de Keythe*, two distinguished men, showing the importance of the two dissentients. The Browns flourished, it is said, for some generations, both in the counties of Aberdeen and Forfar. They

produced, at least, one distinguished man, George Brown, Bishop of Dunkeld. No further notice do we find of the Browns, but in 1484 the first Earl of Huntly granted “part of Midmar” to his second son, Alexander Gordon, on whom also James III. bestowed the lands of Abergeldie, by which title this branch of the Gordons is best known. The royal deed bears, “Dilecto familiari armigero nostro Alexandri de Midmar.” We find a James Gordon (1621) designed of Midmar, but probably this James had only a small portion of the estate. Short tenures have been the rule, when often the name was changed. Thus we find, when the Barony of Midmar became the property of the Forbes (descended from the old Tolquhan branch), they changed its name to “Ballogie,” which survives in “the blind well of Ballogie,” a silent rill trickling from beneath the shade of a wych-hazel not far from the old garden. In the records of the Secret Council, under the date of November 7, 1594, there is “A declaration in favours of Erll Marishaell and others: that the burning and destroying of the place and fortalice of *Ballogy* of the month of October last, and thereafter demolishing of the place and fortalice of Newton, was and is done by his Majesties’ express command, allowance, and approbation;” while in the old Poll-book for 1696 we find the following quaint entries under the heading, “Paroch of Midmar”:

“Ane list of the Polable persons within the Parochin of Midmar, given up be Alexander Forbes, Younger of Ballogie, and Arthur Forbes, Factor of Cyrsinde, two Commissioners nominat and appointed for that effect, and be John Cheyne of Ballogie, Clerk and Collector, appointed by them for the said Parochin.

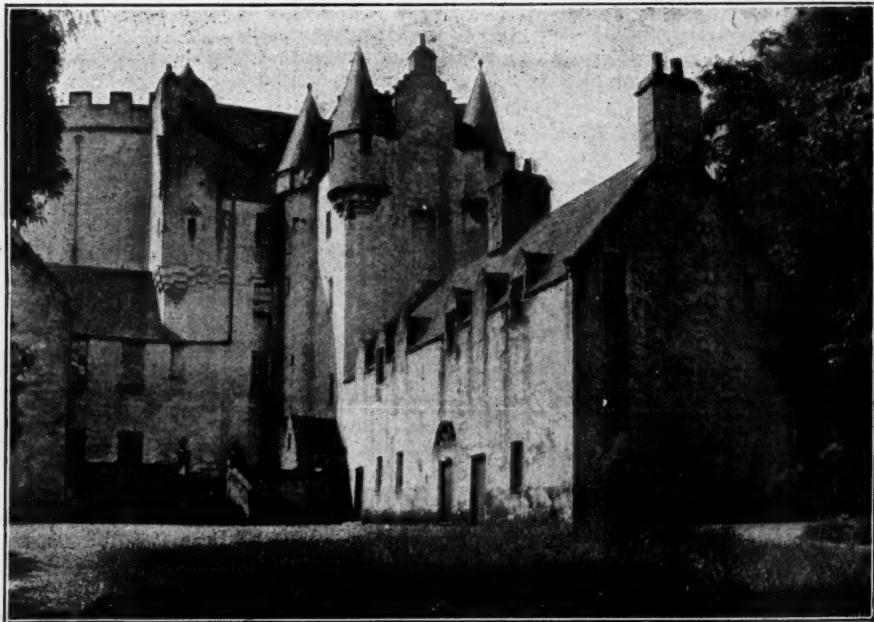
“The Waluatione of the whole Parochin is on thousand, seven hundred, and thirty-seven pounds, £1,737.

“The Waluatione of Alexander £ s. d.
Forbes elder of Ballogie,
his lands within the said
parochin of Midmar is two
hundred and ten pounds,
Scots money 210 0 0

"Item. His lady of general poll
 "Item. Margaret, Barbara, and Elizabeth Forbeses, his daughters, their generall poll is
 "Item. Alexander Craigmill, his servant, his fee is £16 per annum, the fortieth part whereof is eight shillings, and the generall poll is six shillings, both is ...
 "Janet Sanderson, his servant; her fee is £8 per annum, the fortieth part whereof is four shillings, and the generall poll is six shillings, both is

£ s. d.
 o 6 o
 o 18 o
 o 14 o
 o 10 o."

The Forbes were succeeded by Grants, who rechristened the estate "Grantfield," probably because the terrace steps leading to Castle Grant were copied at Midmar by the new owner as a memento of his birthplace. A descendant, Captain Alexander Grant, married in 1730 Elizabeth, daughter of the third Earl of Strathmore, widow of Charles, second Earl of Aboyne. Unfortunately, the designation Midmar does not always apply to the same extent of acreage, which varied with the fortunes of successive owners; thus, when Gordons were lairds of Midmar, part of the barony passed into the hands of the Forbes family; while Grants seem to have been already established on its lands ere they in turn became sole owners. From them a Mr. Davidson purchased the



MIDMAR CASTLE: FRONT VIEW.

And so on for pages, all the farms and dependencies of Midmar (Neather Moor, Overmoor, Mayns of Ballogie, etc.), the tenants, their families, and servants being named.

whole of the lands, and had the good taste to restore finally to both house and estate their original title of Midmar. In 1790 James Horn Elphinstone of Logie married the heiress of Midmar, who in her turn sold

it to James Mansfield, in whose family it remained till purchased by Gordon of Cluny, through whom it has descended to the present owner, Lady Cathcart, wife of Sir Reginald.

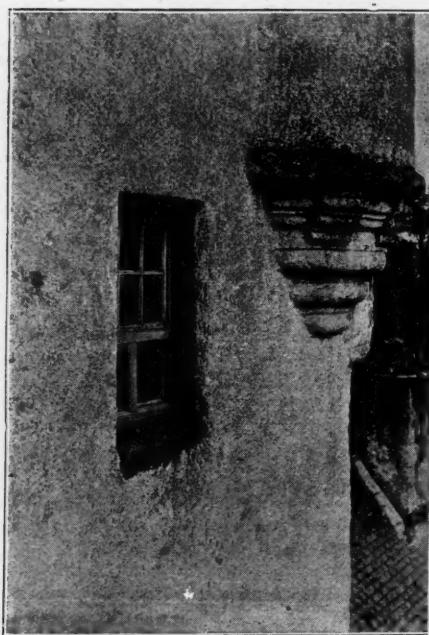
Strange as it may seem, all these various owners were agreed in one matter, not to alter the character of their abode, though adding to it; for its high-pitched roof, lantern towers, and dormer windows—so suggestive of the French taste which prevailed in Scotland during the century and a half that Stuarts and Guises were so intimately connected—stand out clear and distinct. But as a recent visitor to Midmar has well said in *Scottish Notes and Queries*:

"The setting of the castle is particularly good, but its charm is in the bloom of its old age; an old house will not bear rough handling, hardly handling of any sort. Midmar, fortunately, has been allowed to grow old, and to grow in consequence beautiful and interesting. We do not wish to depreciate its purely architectural merit, but to emphasize the fact that such old buildings, with lines worn and indefinite, and with surfaces weather-stained and varied in colour, have gained a beauty which design is powerless to give, and that, being possessed of the authenticity which restoration almost invariably destroys, they are as interesting as beautiful. As architecture, Midmar Castle seems at first sight to belong to that class which, for want of a more suitable word, is termed 'picturesque.' What is called picturesque building, strictly speaking, hardly reaches the level of architecture; but we think that behind the merely picturesque in such a building there is the true 'architecturesque' quality. . . . Instead of being merely a haphazard jumble of features and masses, unjustifiably called picturesque, the building has unity and character, and is therefore all the more suitable and valuable as material for *pictorial* use. . . . It is evident, when we consider that the castle has turrets on all the external angles, that it commands the entire surrounding ground. Whether it was planned with this aim distinctly in view, or whether it is an example of a rooted form tenaciously holding on to life after it has ceased to be of real practical value, cannot well be decided. Besides being well arranged for defensive purposes, the plan

makes it possible for views to be obtained in all directions. At Midmar, moreover, there is an absence of splayed shotholes and such contrivances, leading one to think that perhaps the fortified-house form may be regarded as a survival. . . . Many of the details of the building have a Gothic derivation; for example, the debased angle-rolls on the corners of the rectangular turrets. We must mention the treatment of the gables of the angle turrets of the centre tower, and the curved roof of the circular staircase turret, with its long iron finial and dragon vane, as altogether admirable in their way. . . . Domestic buildings were added about the beginning of the eighteenth century. A charming terraced courtyard, with a quaint parapet wall, pillars, and steps, gives much additional interest to the north-east view, and suggests a very different life from that spent by those who built the old house."

One peculiarity strikes us on entering. There is neither front-door, bell, nor knocker, for, having crossed the flagged courtyard, with its horse-shoe arch and rider's entrance on the right, and mounted the stone steps, a small nail-studded door leads into a narrow passage, whence wooden steps ascend to the hall proper. Most of the rooms are long and low, panelled, and full of quaint corners; small, deep-set windows pierce the walls, which in some parts measure 6 feet in thickness; three winding staircases composed of solid blocks of granite connect the upper and lower stories, and are lit at intervals by narrow slits, or loopholes, still filled with talc, which has been there for generations. The rooms in the large round turret afford an instance of the irregularity with which the castle is built, for though each of the four is exactly above the other, none is of the same shape, the windows alone being constant in position; the fireplace most changeable. Every room has a dark recess, formerly used as a "peat-press" for storing that universal fuel, now turned into a cupboard. Throughout the house the metal-work on the doors is of the quaintest—locks, latches, and keyholes in wrought iron, none alike; and though rough in finish, all the designs effective and original—one set of hinges represents horses! The live rock on which the castle stands peeps out everywhere

in the basement, the scullery sink in the kitchen being simply hollowed out of the projecting mass *in situ*. The ceilings in the two large granaries and in the room called "Queen Mary's" are composed of rough undressed beams, but the Royal chamber boasts one of those curious little windows, now exceedingly rare, the lower portion composed of wooden shutters, described by the learned naturalist John Ray as far back as 1760. When on a tour through Scotland he wrote :



OLD SCOTCH WINDOW, MIDMAR CASTLE.

"In the best Scottish houses, even the King's palace, the windows are not glazed throughout, but the upper part only; the lower have two wooden shutts, or folds, to open at pleasure and admit the fresh air."

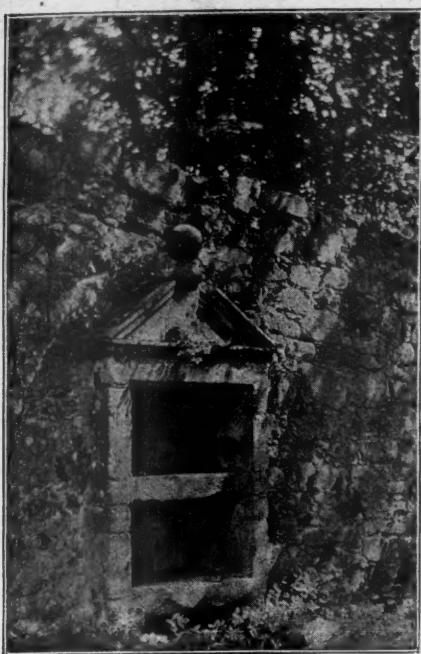
Truly the charm of Midmar consists in the features and peculiarities of bygone days lovingly preserved, so that the harmonious impression of antiquity is kept up, and externals afford a perfect setting to quaint interiors, which seem to carry us back centuries. Nor is the necessary ghost want-

ing, for a "lady in green," carrying her head in her hands, is said to haunt one of the staircases, and to be met going up and down. I have not been able to discover the cause of her restlessness, but as we listened at night to the raindrops on the leaves, and to the owls hooting round the tower, or watched the firelight casting flickering shadows into the corners of the old rooms, it required no great stretch of imagination to conjure up phantoms. Honeysuckle, white roses, and starry clematis climb up the walls and nod in at the windows; swallows, swifts, and martins, who have their nests under the eaves and in the nooks and crannies, dart in and out, flying round in wide circles, with shrill cries and a flash of blue wings; once in a way one will even find its way into the house, and beat its soft breast against the windowpanes till with a glad scream of relief it dashes into freedom. On the three spiral staircases two people can hardly pass, for the steps are little more than 2 feet wide, their greatest depth being about 10 inches, which diminishes to a mere ledge at the central point, and withal very steep. The drawing-room boasts two charming wall cupboards with Chippendale glazed doors; while the servants' hall has so much of the rock in its flooring that an uneven ceiling and curious unsymmetrical windows seem but fitting adjuncts.

Greater even than the charms of the old house are those of its surroundings. At the back of the castle, close outside the dining-room window, grows an ancient holly-tree, the home of numberless feathered families; near it bees hum in and out of their hives, and close by an old granite sundial, with nine dials, mounted on several steps, forms a most picturesque feature.*

On one side of the greensward which intervenes between the gravel approach to the court and the meadow, under the black shadow of a yew-tree, a wooden door leads to the charming old garden. We wonder as we enter whether time has stood still here: currant and gooseberry bushes have become hoary with lichen, for giant branches of the surrounding beech-trees stretch much too far across the open, and now smother what before they shielded from rough blasts. Two

* Pictured in the April *Antiquary*, p. 98.



BEE PRESS, MIDMAR CASTLE.

sets of bee-presses are cut out in the sunniest wall, their gray slabs flecked with yellow mould and green moss; quaint seats are fashioned out of the box borders beside grassy paths; bees hum round the blossoming lime-trees and laurels in a deafening manner, and woodpigeons coo in the distance. A picturesque fruit and tool house with stone staircase occupies one corner. In the flower-beds pansies, stocks, pinks, and all manner of sweet, old-fashioned flowers bloom in wild confusion, scenting the air; but roses predominate, the Burnet, Cinnamon, Celestial bud, Scotch, Ayrshire, York and Lancaster, and others vie with each other and with the Jacobite—that exquisite rose whose pure white heart-shaped petals and golden centre “may well have suggested the white cockade of satin, tied with a golden thread,” and explains the refrain of the Jacobite ballad :

“And here’s the flow’r that I lo’e best,
The rose that’s like the snaw.”

Truly a vision of loveliness is the old garden at Midmar! Through a door at the upper end the path winds under trees to the kitchen garden, situated on a sheltered slope, with sun-baked walls and a grand view of heather-covered hills.

Leaving this to our left, we plunge into a deep and beautiful glen, in the heart of which is the “wishing well,” where a narrow thread of water trickles into a mossy basin fringed with ferns. All round is a sound of purling water. Here drink of the rill in sylvan cup of dock-leaf; wish in silence the desire of your heart, and after many days your wish will be realized, provided it remains secret, for should you chance to reveal it, the charm will be broken, and the wishing well will be powerless.

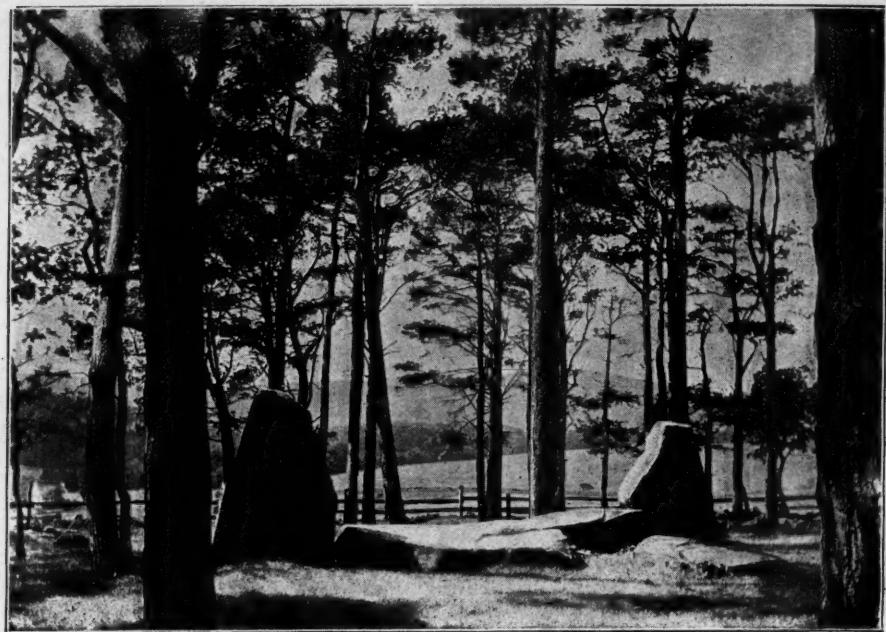
If, leaving the shelter of the woods, we strike out into the open, other and different scenes wait us, for here the moorland is strewn with rocky boulders, amid dew-bespangled ling and golden furze, all varying with passing cloud shadows.

At a little distance the stranger is shown with pride the Barmakin of Echt, a hill crowned by Roman remains of a fort.



TOOL HOUSE, MIDMAR CASTLE.

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ALTAR OF "DRUIDS' CIRCLE": MIDMAR.

Two miles from the Castle of Midmar, and exactly opposite this Barmakin of Echt, is another slighter eminence, with the farm-steading of Sunhoney (a corruption of "Sinhinny," its older name) on its slope, well protected from cold winds by rising ground occupied by clover meadows, honey-scented and white in July. On the top, enclosed by a rough stone wall and fencing, is one of the finest Druid circles of Aberdeenshire. Nine unhewn pillars stand in a perfect ring, which is closed by the "altar," a recumbent monolith nearly 17 feet in length, flanked on either hand by upright stones (7 or 8 feet high), and taller than their fellows; large blocks lie scattered in confusion outside this inner circle, and probably formed a second, or outer, circle. I even fancied I could trace a third in the stones near the fence. On the flat altar-slab are rude, so-called "cup-carvings," now little more than slight hollows, barely deep enough to hold the raindrops. It is a weird and desolate spot: grass grows

rankly underfoot; tall firs—the home of rooks—cast waving shadows on the hoary sentinels; beyond stretch moor and cornfield till a belt of distant hills cuts off the view.



Windham's Tour through France and Italy.

A.D. 1769-70.

(Continued from p. 80.)



THE great church of St. Mark at Venice is perhaps the richest in Italy. Such a profusion of the most valuable marbles employed in columns, etc., is beyond what one meets with in other churches. . . . The four horses cast in brass, which were taken at Constantinople, make a magnificent object in the front

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of the building, which in itself, with regard to taste, is most ridiculous and preposterous.

" In the church called the Friary is an exceeding fine tomb of a Duke Pisauro ; and in the same church is a chappel built by one of the family upon a signal victory gained by the Venetians ; where he is represented in the habit of a senator, in a kneeling posture : the Virgin and our Saviour in the upper part of the picture ; St. Petre in the middle and sev'ral figures behind, representing part of his own family ; a capital painting by Titian ! . . . In the church of St. John and St. Paul is a picture of Titian ; the martyrdom of Peter, very ill preserved ; no remains of coloring either striking or pleasing, however highly commended by connoisseurs, who often see beauties that escape a vulgar eye. . . .

" The Arsenal, tho' no extraordinary sight to an Englishman, yet has great merit, from the magnificence of the dockyards, guns, warrens, rope gallerys, and other gallerys within the buildings, where fire arms, etc., are kept, all in excellent order, sufficient to arm 60,000 men. In one of the timber yards there lay a parcel of fir trees of a very large size brought from the forests in Pola, one of which measured 130 ft. by 6 ft. diameter ; but the greatest curiosity is the town itself, rising out of the sea, as is best seen from the top of the tower of St. Mark. It is divided into two parts by the great Canal and united by means of the Rialto, which makes but an indifferent appearance, being carried over a narrow part of the Canal and crowded with houses. . . .

" The Republic of Venice has always had the reputation of being governed by laws the best calculated of any in the world for the benefit of the subject. . . . The Council of Ten is a body invested with a most tremendous power, and that of the 3 Inquisitors is still more extraordinary, extending over the Doge himself, so as to condemn him to death if they all concur in the same opinion. The laws of this triumvirate may be said to be wrote in blood. . . . [The Venetians'] minds are entirely taken up in the pursuit of private pleasures, so that they have neither inclination or ability to raise any commotions in the State.

" But the wisest regulation of all, and in

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which they ought to be imitated by all nations is, a total exclusion of the clergy from all employments in the administration of Government. The Archbishop of Venice is extremely confind in his jurisdiction. He has not the power of conferring benefices ; and the inferior clergy are nominated in their respective parishes. Even the Inquisition, so formidable in other countrys, is here a mere *brutum fulmen*, not being able to do anything by its own authority ; three senators being deputed by the Senate, to assist at all causes that come before this tribunal, and nothing can be carried into execution without their approbation. It was in consequence of these wise regulations that Harrington speaks of this government with a spirit of enthusiasm, supposing it to stand on so firm a basis that it must last untill the general dissolution of all things.*

" **Sept^r 15.**—Returned from Venice to Padua, from thence to Ferrara, a neat well built town ; the streets spacious with porticos to walk under, but not half inhabited. Little to be seen in this town, except the tomb of the famous Aristo, but has nothing but his name to recommend it. The Dutchy of Ferrara is subject to the Pope. The country on all sides is surrounded by different branches of the Po, which occasion such inundations as to destroy half the country.

" **Sept^r 18.**—Arrived at Bologna, a large town, well paved, streets wide, and has an advantage over most towns in Italy of spacious lofty piazzas, by means of which you may walk under cover thro' the whole town, a great conveniency and ornament. There are about 200 churches here, which with their expensive ornaments and decorations are enough to impoverish a much larger country, not to mention the numbers of drones that are maintained for serving these churches ; exclusive of many convents, etc. Here is the great school of the Caraccis, Guercini, Guido, Tiarini with a variety of other great hands, numbers of which (some from the obscurity and dampness of the place they happened to put them in) have lost great part of their merit, which now cannot be easily discovered but by the penetrating eye of a connoisseur. . . .

* It lasted a little less than thirty years after these words were written !—ED.

"In the church of Corpus Domini lyes or rather sits St. Caterina de Bolonia; a famous saint about 200 years ago. So many miracles were performed at this tomb, that there was no satisfying the people, untill she was made a Saint; accordingly she was taken out of her coffin, when there appeared no signs of decay in her countenance. She was then canonized and afterwards placed in a chappel of this church, where she now appears, richly clad in a sitting posture, but has never touched the arm-chair which is placed under her, being suspended in the air.

"Nobody is suffered to enter this chappel without leave of the Pope. A precaution very necessary for maintaining the credit of this ridiculous story. The sovreignty of Bolonia is annexed to the See of Rome, tho' it is governed as a Republic, by Magistrates of its own choosing, having reserved many priviledges at the time they submitted to the Pope.

"A remarkable custom of adoption is practised in this town: several colleges have been founded for the maintaining and educating, in a particular manner, a certain number of youths choosen by the Senate, and it has often happened that a Bolonese nobleman has left his estate by will to the Republic, upon condition they chuse one of these youths to inherit his estate, real and personal, taking his name and arms, and succeeding to all the privileges of nobility. The will is deposited in the records of the town and when it is to take place, the senators choose a lad, by ballot, at the age of sixteen and appoint a Commissary to take care of the estate till he is of age. This regulation is in case of failure of male issue, by which families are perpetuated and the estate prevented from falling into foreign hands.

"**Sep^r 23.**—Left Bolonia and came to Ancona. . . . Nothing here remarkable in painting or architecture except a gate-way, called the triumphal arch, erected in honor of the Emperor Trajan.

"From hence to Loretto, the treasure of this place consisting of offerings made to the Virgin is astonishing, such a profusion of wealth in the most valuable jewels, pearls, gold, etc., is nowhere else to be seen.

"The *Casa Sancta* we are to look upon as a piece of great curiosity maraculously transported from Nazareth in its original form, the bare brick walls and floor remaining in the same state as when first built; but they have now put a fine outside to it, covered with basso relievos and other ornaments richly carved in marble.

"The Lady herself is dressed like a queen in a gown of gold brocade ornamented with jewels, standing over the alter of a little chappel, decorated with gold lamps, etc. Her face is black carved in wood by St. Luke. All these circumstances help to heighten the superstition of the people. Numbers of poor people walking upon their knees round the marble steps of the *Casa Sancta* by the merits of which penance, they live in hopes of finding some relief from the Virgin, which they cannot have from the Pope.

"From Loretto to Foligni, the road for near 40 miles is cut along the sides of the mountains, and tho' smooth, yet in some places, runs so near the edge of the precipice as to occasion very disagreeable sensations to the minds of travellers. This narrow way may properly be called the Cornish of the mountains.

"From Foligni to Spoleto, two posts. . . . Stopped at Narini two posts further in order to see the famous natural cascade, which having heard so much of before I was a little disappointed. . . .

"**ROME. Sep^r 29.**—Arrived at this city. Impatient the next morning to visit St. Peter's (which in spite of antiquity) is, I believe, uppermost in every man's thoughts upon his first coming to Rome. The spacious area with a magnificent colonade, on each side that leads to the Church, the obelisk in the middle and two fountains continually throwing up a large body of water, give the whole an appearance that surpasses everything of the kind. As to the façade of the building, there is nothing great or magnificent in the design, and looks more like the front of a large palace than of such a Church.

"The stone likewise of which it is built, and all the carvings, are much inferior to St. Paul's in London: but the inside makes ample amends, the proportions being so well

observed and the decorations disposed in so judicious a manner, that the *coup d'œil* at first entrance is enchanting; and gains upon you every time you see it, let it be never so often. . . .

"The next object of a traveller's curiosity is the Rotunda, which of all the Roman buildings that have suffered by the enemy, is the most perfect. And this is the temple which, as soon as they had introduced their saints into it, they ought to have restored and embellished; as it greatly excels all works that their architects have since produced, and has the most pleasing effect of any building I ever saw. But instead of restoring it, they stripped it of all its most valuable ornaments; vizt.: the gilt copper that covered the whole inside of the cupola; besides a quantity of the richest marble. It may be said that the wealth of Italy is locked up in their churches. There are 300 of them in Rome the greatest part of which are fitted up in the most costly manner. One I must mention in particular, the *Chiesa del Gesù*, belonging to the Jesuits, the richest church in Rome. The chappel dedicated to St. Ignatius, is in the highest and richest taste that can be imagined. The figure of the saint over the alter, bigger than the life, is of massive silver, the whole ornamented with marble statues, and bronzes, by the most celebrated hands, with a vast variety of the choicest marble in columns and other figures for the decoration of the chappel. . . .

"*Orti Farnesiani* upon Mount Palatine. . . . Here has been lately discovered, in digging under the foundation of the ruins, some rooms which are supposed to be the Baths of Livia. They seem to have been most elegantly fitted up, some of the ornaments, painted and gilt upon the stucco walls are as fresh as if they had not been done above 50 years.

"The Tarpeian Rock at present answers in no respect the account given of it. The Tyber, formerly at the foot of it having changed its course and houses being built at the bottom. . . . The Forum where the Roman orators thundered out their eloquence, and decided the fate of nations, is now become a market for cows and oxen called *Campo Vaccino*.

"The famous amphitheatre began by

Vespasian and Titus also [called] the Coliseum from a colossian statue of Nero, capable of containing 80,000 spectators. . . . There was a contrivance to shelter the spectators from rain by extending a covering over their heads, as appears by large brass pulleys which were found fastened in at the top of the walls. How this was done does not so readily appear.

"The present Capitol is built upon the same hill where the ancient was. One part of it is the Pope's Museum containing an infinite number of antique statues, bustos, basso-relievos, etc. The Dying Gladiator was that which struck me the most. . . . But I had almost forgot to mention a piece of mosaic work probably the same Pliny takes notice of; it is hung up in a frame, against the wall, about two feet square; the subject of it is, several pigeons pluming themselves upon the brink of a cistern of watter. . . . *Vatican*. In a court belonging to this palace are the three famous statues, Apollo, Lacoon, and Antinous. The gallery one thousand feet long; the ceiling painted the whole way in small compartments by good hands after designs of Raphael. . . . The Pope has three palaces: vizt. the Vatican, St. Jean de Latran, and that upon Monte Cavallo.

"*CATACOMBS*.—Subterraneous vaults into which you enter under the church of St. Sebastian, cut thro' the solid rock, they runn winding for many miles and have several entrances into them. Nothing can be more absurd than to imagine they were made for the Christians to conceal themselves from their persecutors. That they buried their dead there, is without dispute and making use of them occasionally as places of devotion. But without doubt they were originally made for the sake of the stones which was got out of them and employed in the buildings all over Rome; serving as quarries for that purpose. It is endless to enumerate all the Roman buildings that lye in ruins in and about Rome.

"The Circus of Caracalla and the stables where the horses, etc., for the races were kept, remain in a state that plainly shews to what uses they were put. . . .

"The palaces and villas belonging to the nobility are buildings void of all good taste.

The apartments however in many of them spacious, richly furnished and decorated with good paintings, fine marbles, and ancient sculpture. The Villa of Cardinal Albani surpasses all the rest in Rome, tho' small, and I think is beyond any house I ever saw for true taste and elegance in the fitting up and furnishing, the rooms with the choicest of antique statues, bustos, marbles, etc. The floors are inlaid with cedar and other valuable woods, which makes the whole of a piece; whereas in almost all the other palaces the floors are laid with common bricks.

(To be continued.)



New Lamb and Hazlitt Papers.

By W. CAREW HAZLITT.

ABOUT sixty years ago my father presented, it now appears, to an intimate friend quite a parcel of letters and other manuscripts connected with the families of Charles Lamb and William Hazlitt. Shortly before his death in 1898 this gentleman restored them to me. Of course it is a gain to come into possession of documents of whose existence one was ignorant; yet it is sufficiently vexatious to have been deprived, in editing both these authors, of the valuable and curious light shed by this *trouvaile* on many points of biography and criticism. Several of the letters in the collection supply, in fact, gaps and clues which we have all along been wanting. I propose on the present occasion to restrict myself to the formation of a sort of calendar of the little series.

1. Two letters of the Rev. William Hazlitt to his son William, 1790, full of interesting domestic details. Folio. *Unpublished.*
2. Eight letters from William Hazlitt to his father, written from Liverpool while he stayed at the house of Mrs. Tracy, or from school, in 1790. 4to. and folio. *Chiefly unpublished.*

3. A joint letter on same sheet to Mrs. Hazlitt (wife of the Essayist) from her mother and sister-in-law (1821). 4to. *Unpublished.*
4. A letter (the only one known) written by William Hazlitt to Miss Stoddart, afterwards his first wife (1808). 4 pp., 4to. Full of allusions of an interesting character.
5. The humble petition and remonstrance of William Hazlitt, of 34, Southampton Buildings. 1808. 8 pp., 4to. In relation to a facetious report of his death. Gives particulars of his works and employments. Addressed to Joseph Hume, of the Victualling Office, Somerset House. *Unpublished.*
6. Letter from W. Hazlitt at Salisbury to his wife, staying with the Lambs, 1810, two years after marriage, thanking her for procuring him certain prints, mentioning many matters of literary or artistic interest, desiring to know when the Lambs are coming down to Wiltshire, etc. 3 pp., folio. *Unpublished and unique*, as the only known example addressed to his wife after marriage.
7. The Damned Author's Address to his Reviewers. A copy of verses by W. Hazlitt (1823). With a short note to John Black of the *Chronicle*, asking him to insert it, or hand it over to John Hunt for the *Examiner*. Written at Vevey in Switzerland. *Unpublished?*
8. Eleven pages of an unknown text of the *Liber Amoris* in the form of a *Diary*. Probably all that was thus done. 8vo. Holograph, not (like the MS. from which the book was printed), in the hand of a third party.
9. Original MS. of the Essay *On a Sundial*. Folio.
10. Hints to persons in business and men of the world, the properly attending to which may save them from losing hundreds and thousands. 4 pp., folio. Satirical. *Unpublished.*
11. Aphorisms on Man. Written paragraphically. Nos. 43 to 93 only. 4to. *Unpublished.*

12. Letter from C. Lamb to Hazlitt, November 10, 1805. Printed in the editions, but not quite correctly. 4 pp., 4to.
13. The same to the same, January 15, 1806. 3 pp., folio. In the editions (but incorrectly).
14. The same to the same, February 19, 1806. 2 pp., folio.
15. The same to the same (1806). One page, folio. *Unpublished.*
16. The same to Joseph Hume of the Victualling Office, December 29, 1807. 2 pp., folio. *Unpublished.*
17. The same to the same, January 12, 1808. 4 pp., folio. *Unpublished.*
18. Joseph Hume to W. Hazlitt (1808). One page, 8vo. *Unpublished.*
19. Joseph Hume to Charles Lamb, January 11, 1808. 2 pp., 4to. *Unpublished.*
20. The same to the same, January 13, 1808. 5 pp., folio. *Unpublished.* About William Hazlitt and other literary matters.
21. Charles Lamb to W. Hazlitt, junr. (1831). One page, 8vo. *Unpublished.*

The remarkable packet comprises many other minor items—autograph letters from Bulwer, Ainsworth, etc.



Early Book-Auctions.*

MOST book-lovers have heard of the first book-auction held in England—that of Dr. Lazarus Seaman's library, which was held after his death in 1676, in his own house in Warwick Court, and most bibliographers know something of the sales held by the two pioneers of book-auctioning in this country, William Cooper and Edward Millington; but Mr. Lawler's little volume is the first systematic account we have had of the early book-sales

during the quarter of a century which followed the experiment with Dr. Seaman's library. Probably few collectors are fortunate enough to own such materials for producing a systematic history of this kind as those in the hands of Mr. Lawler.

He possesses a remarkable series of the catalogues issued by the early auctioneers. These are very valuable guides to the tastes and preferences in books which then prevailed, and many of them are rendered still more valuable for the present-day bibliographer by the contemporary notes of the prices fetched by the various lots which not a few of these catalogues contain.

A general survey of the lists noted and described by Mr. Lawler reveals plainly several well-marked characteristics of the libraries of those days. For one thing, they consisted in some cases exclusively, and in others very largely, of what was practically contemporary literature. Among the many thousands of volumes brought to the hammer, comparatively few were of earlier date than the seventeenth century. No one seems to have really cared for the work of Caxton or any other early printer, English or foreign. Again, theology, especially contemporary theology, bulked very largely, and in most cases the *belles lettres* make but a very poor show. It was customary to place such books as came under the latter heading, with history and other works of a purely literary kind, in the so-called "Philological" section of the catalogue. It seems a quaint freak of nomenclature which classes Milton's *Paradise Lost*, George Wither's *Abuses Stript and Whipt*, early books on America, and the like, among *Libri Philologici*.

The invaluable notes of the prices realized which Mr. Lawler is able to give in a good many interesting cases, are calculated to make the present-day collector feel somewhat sad. Whole bundles of New England pamphlets and tracts, which now would fetch their weight in gold, were sold over and over again for trifling sums. At Cooper's sixth sale, held in his own house at the "Pelican," in Little Britain, March 21, 1680-81, Raleigh's *Discovery of Guiana*, with seventeen other tracts, sold for 2s., while a bundle containing such rare pamphlets as *A Discovery of the Coast of America*, *The Virginia Company, Travels*

* *Book Auctions in England in the Seventeenth Century (1676-1700).* By John Lawler. "The Book-Lover's Library." London: Elliot Stock, 1898, 8vo., pp. xliv, 241.

from *Virginia to Carolina*, for all of which no dates are given, went for 4s.

Equally striking contrasts in values are revealed by the prices obtained for much of our early literature. "The old Latin and Greek folios found here," says Mr. Lawler, speaking of Dr. Seaman's sale, "have not much altered in value, roughly speaking, even in our own days; but certain books then little valued have since reached prices which would seem astonishing to our ancestors, to whom the fabulous sums which some now realize were entirely unknown. Dr. Seaman's copy of the Indian Bible of John Eliot, the first missionary to the Indians, sold for 19s. A copy sold in America a year or two ago for £300. Many people would like to buy now the Homer of 1488 for 9s., the sum realized for the copy in this catalogue, and Gaza's *Introductive Grammatices*, printed by Aldus in 1495, for 3s. 6d."

Some extraordinarily low prices—low, that is, from the present-day point of view—were realized for English books at Dr. Bernard's sale in 1686. Caxtons sold for 3s. and 4s. each; *The Ship of Fools*, printed by Wynkyn de Worde, 1517, went for 1s.; Tusser's *Husbandry*, 1590, for 4d.; Gower's *De Confessione Amantis*, 1554, 2s. 6d.; Richard of Bury's *Philobiblon*, 1599, with five other works, fetched 2s. 10d.; Puttenham's *Art of English Poesie*, 1589, sold for 10d.; and so on with many others.

At the sale of Sir Kenelm Digby's library in 1680, a lot which included Shakespeare's *Rape of Lucretia*, and Hesiod's *Georgics*, by Chapman, with twenty other pieces, went for 3s. First editions of Marlowe's *Hero and Leander*, and pieces by Chapman and John Heywood and others—in all twenty-one pieces—sold for 6s. 2d. Twelve plays by Shakespeare, Shirley, Heywood, Chapman, etc., fetched 3s., and so on. At this same sale rare American tracts averaged about 4d. each. Mr. Lawler has not overdone the quoting of prices, but gives enough to show what books were most in demand 200 years ago, and enough to show, inferentially, that collectors then cared little for the earlier literature of their own country, and evidently had no conception of the value posterity would set upon the books and tracts they so lightly esteemed.

Most of the early catalogues were preceded by more or less quaintly worded addresses to possible purchasers, and Mr. Lawler prints many of these at length. The auctioneers for a long time deemed it necessary to commence by extolling the merits of the auction system; but later on these addresses reveal, and occasionally denounce, tricks both of the trade and of buyers. It is amusing to find one auctioneer pluming himself on not practising the devices of some of his rivals, who put forward "the stale and formal pretences of their [wares] being the Libraries of some late learned Divines or famed Antiquaries deceased, to recommend them." The compilers also frequently complain of the doings of those who outbid others for books, but who neglected to pay for them or to fetch them away. In order to prevent annoyances of this kind, buyers were asked to give their names and addresses, and later, at a sale in February, 1690-91, the condition was introduced of calling upon buyers to deposit 5s. in the pound at the time of purchase, if demanded. At this same sale, also, a condition limiting the sum by which a bid might be increased is first heard of. The catalogue says that "no person is to bid less than 6d. a time under a pound, and 1s. above a pound for folios, 4d. for quartos, 2d. for 8vo., 12mo., 24mo., the first bidding left to the pleasure of the Company."

Another point revealed by the auctioneers' prefaces is that only gradually did the bindings of books come to be considered as of any importance. At the sale of the second portion of the bookseller Richard Davis's stock at Oxford, in 1686, some of the Bibles were described as being in "Red Turkey extraordinary," corresponding to the modern "morocco extra." In the following year the preface to the catalogue of Sir William Coventry's books says, "these Books are in a very good condition as to their Binding, being most of them curiously bound and gilt back." "Gilt back," remarks Mr. Lawler, "was evidently a *bonne bouche* in those days, for as soon as the auctioneers began to find that a book realized more if it was well bound, the words *doris deauratis* were frequently used."

Mr. Lawler does not touch much on provincial book-auctions. He devotes a chapter

to the eccentric John Dunton's Irish sales; and scattered through the volume are accounts of auctions at Oxford, Cambridge, Norwich, Tunbridge Wells, Abingdon, and one or two other places. The new system of selling books by auction spread very quickly over the country, and it would be interesting to have notes of the earliest sales in the larger provincial towns. The first book-auction in Leeds, for instance—not mentioned by Mr. Lawler—took place on December 29, 1692. Thoresby mentions it in his diary, and notes that he bought the *Scala Mundi*, a historical manuscript, which he much valued.

We have by no means exhausted the points of interest in Mr. Lawler's volume, but we have perhaps said enough to indicate its value. Both the bibliographer and the dilettante lover of books will find it an indispensable possession.

A.



Antiquarian News.

[We shall be glad to receive information from our readers for insertion under this heading.]

THE new Yorkshire Parish Register Society, whose prospectus we described last month, is now fully formed. Already 180 members have joined, and at a meeting of the society held in Leeds various offers of help and suggestions for work were reported. It was formally decided that its object should be the transcribing and printing of parish registers in the county of York. A further suggestion that the Bishop's transcripts should be included where obtainable was adopted. It was also resolved that three volumes of the registers should be issued every year to the members and clergy only.



Among the gifts to the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, during the year 1898, specially mentioned by the syndicate in their fiftieth annual report, are the following: An engraving of the interior of the Leyden University library by Woudanus, and a collection of forty-eight engraved portraits of Cambridge celebrities, have been presented by J. W. Clark, M.A., Registrar. Mr. Pendlebury has presented during the year fourteen volumes and sixteen unbound pieces of music. Professor W. M. Flinders Petrie has presented a number of specimens of pottery, mace-heads and smaller objects, found during his excavations on behalf of the Egyptian Research Account in 1898. The principal purchases have been: A MS. of Aristotle's *Analytics* of the fourteenth century, written in Italy, with illuminated initials; a copy of the German version of Sir John Mandeville's travels, printed at Basel, circa 1480, with numerous hand-coloured woodcuts

(Brunet, Supplement I., 931); a series of photographic reproductions of pictures in the Prado Gallery at Madrid and of pictures by Rembrandt in the galleries of Berlin, Cassel, and Dresden; a facsimile reproduction of a thirteenth-century MS. of the *Lapidario del Rey Alfonso*; a set of E. aus'm Weerth's publications of monuments of early Rhenish art; two water-colour drawings by T. M. Rooke, namely, a view of Troyes (Aube) and one of Beaugency (Loir-et-Cher); a volume of miscellaneous engravings by (and after) Martin van Heemskerck, the elder Brueghel, and other artists of the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries; and a gold ring (probably episcopal, of the thirteenth century) set with a sapphire, found near Fordham, in Cambridgeshire.



The memorial to Sir Thomas Browne, to be erected in Norwich by public subscription, is to take the form of a statue in the Haymarket, where it will face the house in which the author of *Religio Medici* spent the greater part of his life, while it backs immediately upon the church of St. Peter, Mancroft, where he lies buried. The house is now occupied as a bank.



SALES.

THE DURLACHER COINS.—Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge began on Monday, and continued yesterday, the four days' sale of the important collection of the late Mr. Alexander Durlacher, member of the Numismatic Society of London. The first two days' sale of 302 lots realized a total of £1,044, and included the following: Henry IV. noble, heavy coinage, without flag, very fine, and of the highest rarity, £37 10s. (Spink); Henry VII. sovereign, King seated on throne holding sceptre and orb, under a canopy of three arches, £28 (Spink); Henry VIII. sovereign of the eighteenth year, second coinage, £15 5s. (Spink); another of the thirty-fourth year, third coinage, £10 (Rollin); Mary, fine sovereign, 1553, the Queen seated, facing, on throne, very fine and rare, £17 10s. (Rollin); Philip and Mary angel, extremely fine, £10 12s. (Spink); Elizabeth gold ryal, Queen in ship, holding sceptre and orb, £30 10s. (Spink); James I. noble or spur ryal, the King standing, facing, in ship, holding sword and shield, £25 10s. (Spink); and five other gold pieces of the same reign, thirty-shilling, with the thistle mint mark, £15 5s. (Spink); another, with the trefoil mint mark, £12 10s. (Spink); fifteen-shilling piece, with spur rowel mint mark—this has been pierced in two places, £10 15s. (Spink); angel, seventeenth year, fine and rare, £10 5s. (Rollin); and half-angel, £11 10s. (Spink); Charles I. three-pound piece, Oxford mint, 1642, £11 (Spink); three-pound piece of the same mint, 1643, very fine and rare, £15 2s. 6d. (Rollin); another, 1644, in very fine condition, £18 (Spink); and a silver pound piece, 1642, very rare, £15 15s. (Rollin).—*Times*, March 22.



THE DURLACHER COINS.—Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge concluded yesterday the four days' sale of the collection of English coins formed by

the late Mr. Alexander Durlacher, the 583 lots realizing a total of £2,182 10s. 6d. The more important lots of the two concluding days' sale were the following: Cromwell broad, 1656, by Simon, £10 10s. (Verity); Charles II. five-guinea piece, 1677, £10 10s. (Spink); James II. five-guinea piece, 1688, £13 10s. (Rollin); Anne five-guinea piece, 1703, extremely fine and rare, £20 (Spink); a guinea-piece of the same, 1703, excessively rare, £15 (Rollin); a pattern farthing in copper of the same, 1713, £28 10s. (Spink); George I. five-guinea piece, 1720, £11 5s. (Spink); George III. pattern two-pound piece, gold, 1820, by Pistrucci, in brilliant condition, £11 (Weight); a pattern crown in silver of 1817, by Wyon, £15 10s. (Verity); and George IV. pattern crown in silver, 1820, by Mills, £13 10s. (Hare). The two concluding days realized a total of £1,143 2s. 6d.—*Times*, March 24.

MESSRS. SOTHEBY, WILKINSON AND HODGE sold on the 24th, 25th, and 26th ult. a portion of the library of a gentleman, which included the following: Villon Society's Arabian Nights, £16. Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking-Glass, first editions, £9. Reid's Catalogue of Cruikshank's Works, £15 10s. Westmacott's English Spy, 2 vols., 1825-26, £17 10s. H. K. Browne, by D. C. Thomson, with 23 original drawings, 1884, £12. Collection of 82 Broadside Ballads, seventeenth century, £41. Blake's Book of Job, 1826, £9 10s. Cromwelliana, illustrated with 432 portraits and plates, 1810, £31. Shelley's Works, Kelmscott Press, £20 5s. Chaucer's Works, Kelmscott Press, £57. Engravings and Woodcuts by Old Masters, 8 parts, Quaritch, 1889-97, £19. Sir E. Landseer's Works, 2 vols., Graves, £11 5s. Percy Society's Publications, 30 vols., £8 5s. Raymond's Memoirs of Elliston, extra illustrated, 1846, £10. Combe's English Dance of Death, 1815-16, £9 15s. Racinet, Costume Historique, 1888, £12 5s. Ackermann's Microcosm of London, 1808, £10 15s. Spenser's Faerie Queene by Wise, 19 parts, 1894-96, £12. Thackeray's Works, édition de luxe, £10 5s. George Whitney's Choice of Emblems, 1586, original MS., with the drawings, £32. Musée Français et Musée Royal, £10 10s. Nolhac, Marie Antoinette, 1890, finely bound, £15. Boydell's Shakespeare Gallery, 2 vols., morocco, £15.—*Athenaeum*, April 1.

PROCEEDINGS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES.

THE SELDEN SOCIETY.—The annual general meeting of this society, which was founded in 1887 to encourage the study and advance the knowledge of the history of English law, was held yesterday in the council-room of Lincoln's Inn Hall. The Master of the Rolls occupied the chair, and stated that they had to announce a slight increase of members from 265 in 1897 to 273 in 1898. As to the publication of the year-books of Edward II., it would have to be done out of their own resources, and the council proposed to publish one volume every alternate year, commencing in 1902, so as not to stop the issue of other works. He had been

unable, as Master of the Rolls, to get more money from the Treasury than would enable them to finish what they now had in hand. The Treasury took the view—he regretted to say that it was supported by Act of Parliament—that they had no right to expend public money on such works. Vol. XIII. for 1899 would be one of *Select Pleas of the Forests*, by Mr. G. J. Turner, and Vol. XIV. for 1900 on *The Municipal Records of Lincoln and Beverley*, by Mr. A. F. Leach. He was sorry to say that their literary director (Professor F. W. Maitland), who worked for them in the most praiseworthy manner, had been unwell for some time, and had been compelled to go abroad, but it was expected that that gentleman would shortly be able to resume his duties. He concluded by moving the adoption of the report, the election of Mr. Justice Stirling as a vice-president, and the election of the following as members of the council: Mr. Justice Bruce, Mr. Justice Channell, Sir Howard Elphinstone, Mr. A. T. Carter, and Mr. B. G. Lake.—Mr. Justice Cozens-Hardy seconded the resolution, which was agreed to unanimously.—*Times*, March 23.

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—March 15.—Mr. C. H. Compton, Vice-President, in the chair.—Dr. Brushfield brought for exhibition a very curious pipe, from the collection of the late Rev. S. M. Mayhew, the peculiarity consisting in its having a portrait bowl with the face turned inwards towards the smoker, the stem being very much ornamented. Dr. Brushfield had compared it with those in the British Museum, but the Museum possesses nothing like it. The portrait has a resemblance to those of Sir Walter Raleigh, and may have been intended for a likeness. The pipe is of the time of Elizabeth or James I., and was found in London in 1872.—Mr. W. A. Donnelly read a most interesting paper upon his recent discoveries of prehistoric remains in the Clyde Valley. The vitrified fort, with cup and ring, rock and boulder sculpturings, an ancient hill fort, or broch, and the crannog at Dumbuck, altogether form a group of archaeological discoveries in the Dumbartonshire district of the Clyde Valley perhaps unequalled in recent times. When the discovery of the vitrified fort was first made known, experts considered the evidences insufficient to establish positively the formation and extent of the structure; but subsequent careful examination by Mr. Donnelly in company with Mr. John Bruce, F.S.A., established the fact that the structure had an inner and outer formation, that on the apex of the hill being 48 feet in circumference, while the outer vitrified rampart measures 232 feet in circumference. Of the discovery of the fort on the summit of the hill of Dumbuie, about a mile from Dumbarton Castle, interesting particulars were given. Its form is circular, slightly elliptical, the major axis of the interior measuring 32 feet and the minor axis 30 feet. The walls are 13 feet 6 inches thick, dry built, of local sandstone. On the inside at the highest they did not measure more than 6 feet. No traces of windows were met with, the only opening being the doorway, which faced the east, and had on each side a small guard chamber sufficient to accommo-

date one person conveniently. Several hearths were discovered, and cooking stones and stone pounders, polished pebbles, whetstones, and oyster-shells with signs of ornamentation, one of which contained in the cavities of the design traces of a red pigment. Stone spear-heads and one bone arrow-head were found. Amongst the hundreds of tons of material removed and most carefully sifted no trace of metal of any kind nor of pottery was discovered. Passing on, Mr. Donnelly told the story of his discovery, on July 31, 1868, of the now famous crannog at Dumbuck. The canoe and the ladder which were found at the crannog were the two most important finds in wood, but a quantity of wooden objects have been met with. A striking peculiarity of all the wood used in the construction of the crannog is the fact that although it possesses its original form, and retains even the slightest tool mark, it is in a condition of pulp. The paper was abundantly illustrated by diagrams and drawings, together with a large collection of objects discovered. Amongst the numerous exhibits was the much-discussed spear-head of slate found under the so-called ladder. Roedeer horns and hoofs and fox and badger remains were met with, and a stone, shaped like a leg of mutton, and weighing 22 lb., supposed to have been used for driving piles. The largest pile found measures 10 inches in diameter. The tide covers the crannog daily to the depth of 4 to 8 feet.—*Abridged from the Hon. Secretary's Report.*



ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—General meeting, April 5.—Emanuel Green, F.S.A., hon. director, in the chair.—The Worshipful Chancellor Ferguson, F.S.A., exhibited a Persian talisman, made of a circular disc of thin brass, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. The centre is occupied by a circle $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter, containing a rude human face representing the sun. Ranged round the central sun are twelve cartouches, each containing Persian inscriptions signifying various attributes of God. Outside these circles are twelve other circles, containing the signs of the Zodiac. Every one of the twelve signs was supposed to have an influence over certain parts of the human body, as shown by Chaucer in his *Treatise on the Astrolabe*. In it is a diagram which shows the influence of the Zodiacal signs upon the human body; thus, Aries takes the head, and the order of the Zodiacal signs is gone regularly through, descending the human body, and ending with Aquarius for the legs below the knee, and Pisces for the feet. Hence the talisman seems to have been used by the poorer classes to avert disease, probably, as suggested by Chancellor Ferguson, by consulting the talisman and addressing a prayer to God by the name opposite the sign which has influence over the part of the human body affected.—A paper was read by J. Lewis André, F.S.A., on "The Ritualistic Ecclesiology of North-east Somerset." He commenced by contrasting Norfolk and Somerset ritualistic ecclesiology, and proceeded to discuss the various fittings of north-east Somerset churches, namely, altar stones and altar accessories, with allusions to the numerous sancte bell-cotes, several of which retain the bell itself. Only one Easter

sepulchre and one low side-window seemed to exist. Mr. André noticed the stalls and the numerous square bowed fonts of Romanesque design, especial attention being directed to the very curious example at Locking. He further referred to the prominence given to the rood-turret, the peculiar porch galleries, as well as to the interesting stained-glass windows.—Mr. J. P. Harrison, M.A., read a paper on the "Influence of Eastern Art on Western Architecture in the Eleventh Century." So little is known of the state of architecture in France and England in the first half of the eleventh century that it seemed well to give some of the information bearing on the subject which has lately been gathered from the works of Baron de Caumont and M. Viollet-le-Duc. The chief information from these authorities is the influence exerted in the centre of France by a colony of Greek merchants, who established an emporium at Limoges, whence Eastern art and architectural ornament was diffused along trade-routes in different directions early in the eleventh century, besides the introduction of cupolas and vaulting in Aquitaine. A second important improvement in architecture, in this case in Normandy, at Rouen and Bernay, in the time of Duke Richard II., appears to be due to visits from Syrian and Armenian bishops and monks at about the same date. Symeon, the Abbot of St. Catherine's, on Mount Sinai, in particular spent two years at Rouen, and built a church there for a Norman nobleman. M. Ruprich-Robert describes the architecture at Bernay as entirely different from the Norman work at Caen, and evidently by a foreign artist. The date of the church is pronounced by M. Robert to be before 1050. Another point of considerable importance on which he throws light is the introduction of a feature derived from Syrian art into Western Romanesque. It is the change of a Latin plan of church for an Eastern arrangement of pillars, two and two of different sizes, at St. Etienne at Caen, by Lanfranc in 1062, with a view of introducing vaulting.—Mr. Harrison pointed out that alternate pillars and wall-shafts, like those at Caen, exist in Harold's church at Waltham, believed to have been built at nearly the same time, and that the chevron ornament on arches was not a Norman invention.—*Communicated by the Hon. Secretary.*



The March meeting of the SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND was mostly taken up with an account of the excavation of the camps and earthworks at Birrensward Hill in Annandale, which had been undertaken by the society in 1898, and carried out under the charge of Mr. James Barbour, F.S.A., architect, Dumfries, with Mr. Alex. Mackie, who had just finished for the society the excavation of the fort at Abernethy, as clerk of works. A general notice of the nature of the works and the history of the place was given by Dr. D. Christison, secretary. Although there was no single point which could be relied on as positive proof, the consensus of testimony was in favour of a Roman origin for the siege works at the foot of the hill, and a native origin for the fortress on the top. Mr. James

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Barbour described the exploratory operations and their results, and Dr. Joseph Anderson gave a detailed description of the various objects found in the course of the excavations.—A paper by Mr. Charles J. Guthrie was also read, entitled "The Traditional Belief in John Knox's House at the Netherbow, Edinburgh, vindicated."

In a paper entitled "Notes for a New History of Stirling," read before the March meeting of the STIRLING NATURAL HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Mr. W. B. Cook gave the results of his researches in connection with several buildings and localities associated with the pre-Reformation history of the burgh. In the course of his paper Mr. Cook referred to a pend in Baker Street, known as the Vennel Close, which, he said, was an open lane before the Reformation, and was called the "Ladie Vennel," in honour of the Virgin Mary, after the building of the Greyfriars' Monastery, to which it was a convenient access from the north and east parts of the town. The Lady Vennel seemed to have been the pend from which the town's drummer began his rounds every day at four o'clock in the morning and seven o'clock p.m. The vennel itself is said to have been the place where the Stirling butchers stoned James Guthrie, the martyr, and his blood used to be shown in a window-sill, but, like the Rizzio stain at Holyrood, this story needed confirmation. In the end of last century the house over the Vennel Close was the first residence in Stirling of the good Bishop Glegg, and in consequence was for long known as the Bishop's Close. Seeing that the names of St. Mary's Wynd and Friars' Wynd did not offend the Protestant ears, and were useful as marking pre-Reformation localities in the town, Mr. Cook suggested that, instead of being simply No. 73, Baker Street, this ancient passage should have its proper name, the "Lady Vennel," restored and painted over it, for the information alike of citizens and visitors.

A meeting of the ROYAL SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF IRELAND was held at 6, Stephen's Green, Dublin, on March 28, Mr. Thomas Drew presiding. Mr. George Coffey contributed "A Communication on the Palaeolithic Period, with Evidences of the Antiquity of Man," illustrated by many striking lantern slides. Mr. F. Elrington Ball read a paper on "Tallaght, Co. Dublin, and some Places in its Neighbourhood," which were to be visited by the society on April 13. He gave a short sketch of Dolphin's Barn and Crumlin, whose church-tower, he said, was of some antiquity. The Castle of Drimnagh, an oblong castle of the Anglo-Norman period, containing three stories, was next described, and its history given. For upwards of four centuries it was occupied by the great family of Barnewall. Clondalkin, which was also to be visited, was remarkable as the site of one of the Three Round Towers still to be seen in the County Dublin. It differed from most other round towers in a singular projecting base, considered by Dr. Petrie to be part of the original design, but generally supposed to be of modern construction. It was 84 feet in height.

No traces of the original church remained. In the sixteenth century Clondalkin was accounted one of the walled and good towns of the county. On the road from Clondalkin to Tallaght, Newlands was passed, and adjoining it was the Castle of Belgard, once a strongly fortified dwelling. It was deemed one of the most important castles of the Pale, which was not far off, and often served to protect the surrounding country from the incursions of the O'Byrnes and O'Tooles. Not far off was the Castle of Ballymount, or Baile Mota, the town of the moat, which was locally supposed to have been connected with Belgard by an underground passage. Tallaght itself bore few traces of its antiquity and former greatness as the site of a religious house from very early times, and as the chief seat of the Archbishops of Dublin for five centuries. It was said to derive its name, which signified "plague-monument," from being the burial-ground of 9,000 of the earliest colonists of the country who were carried off by plague in one week. The ancient Church of Tallaght was replaced in Anglo-Norman times by a church of which the belfry still remained, and which had probably some pretensions to architectural beauty. In the churchyard there were the remains of an ancient stone cross, known locally as "St. Mollrooney's loaf and griddle," and a very large stone fort, which was known as "St. Mollrooney's losset."

The monthly meeting of the GLASGOW ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY was held in the rooms, 207, Bath Street, on March 16, Professor Young, ex-president, in the chair. Mr. J. Dalrymple Duncan, one of the hon. secretaries, laid on the table a new part of the *Transactions*, which will be issued to the members. Dr. James Macdonald read a paper on "The Distance-Slabs of the Antonine Wall or Wall," in which he gave a description of the slabs and discussed the difficulties met with in reading the inscriptions. Dr. J. O. Mitchell afterwards read a paper on "The Old Highways of the Moffat District." He pointed out that the original road-makers in that district were the Romans. One of their great main roads ran through the parish of Moffat, following from Carlisle practically the route of the existing Caledonian Railway. The old Roman route by the Summit level came in later times to be entirely abandoned, and the north and south traffic through Moffat was diverted by the Beef Tub and Ericstane Moor. It was by this route that the Glasgow to London mail, begun in 1788, travelled. At a later period, about the end of that century, the old Roman road down Evan Water was revived, parallel to the existing Caledonian Railway, and after many difficulties was converted by Telford, the engineer, into the famous Glasgow and Carlisle Road—one of the finest roads in the country, and along which a splendid mail service was conducted until it was supplanted by the railway.

At the March meeting of the EAST RIDING ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY, held at the Station Hotel, Hull, under the presidency of Lord Hawkesbury, a paper was read by Mr. J. R. Boyle, F.S.A., on "Edward I.

and Kingston-upon-Hull," which was followed by a paper on a "Clog Almanack," read by Mr. G. F. J. Miles, of Withernsea. "Roman Roads in the East Riding" formed the subject of a third paper, read by the Rev. E. Maule Cole, Vicar of Wetwang. He said he had lived in the heart of the Wolds for nearly thirty-four years, and had exceptional opportunities of studying the subject. There had been writers who had confused the lines of the ancient British entrenchments with Roman roads. It was difficult to distinguish between a Roman and a mediæval road. The only Roman road that he knew of in the East Riding extends from Stamford Bridge to Brough-on-the-Humber. In 1892, he, with Mr. Bardwell, of Bolton Hall, explored it from Barnaby Brow to High Cullen Grange. At a foot below the surface a layer of mortar was met with, 15 feet wide and nearly a foot thick, and raised in the centre. Where hedges were planted across the road they did not flourish, but withered away. There was no doubt this was the Roman road from York to Brough, and it must have crossed the Derwent near Stamford Bridge. The road from Stamford Bridge, or from York to Bridlington, had greater claims to antiquity than any of similar length in the East Riding. Many Roman coins have been found on these roads as well as portions of tessellated pavements.



HAMPSHIRE FIELD CLUB AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of this society was held at Winchester, under the presidency of the Earl of Northbrook, on April 4. The members first assembled in the cathedral and viewed the roof of the nave under the guidance of the Dean. Ascending by a turret staircase, the party was able to traverse the length of the nave between the groined roof and the timber roof above. This has been very carefully restored, and some of the massive oak beams of the time of William the Conqueror were well seen.—At the meeting for the annual business, the report for the year stated that the society held eight meetings during 1898, viz., at Christchurch in April, at Winchfield, Odiham, and Crondall in May, and also near Alresford, in the Meon Valley, and at Southampton in June, in the south of the Isle of Wight in July, at Headbourn Worthy, Stoke Charity, and Micheldever in August, and at Silchester in September. The report alluded to the efforts made by the society to preserve the Roman antiquities on the Bittern Manor Estate, about to be used for building purposes, and a letter was read from Lady Macnaughten stating that the Roman objects of interest there would be given to the museum at Southampton. The report also referred to the successful efforts made by the society to preserve a portion of the ancient west wall of Southampton, which had been threatened with destruction, and also to the recent successful agitation against the removal or mutilation of the Bar Gate, Southampton, in which the officers and other members of the society have taken a very active part.—The officers, including the Earl of Northbrook as president, were re-elected.—On the proposition that ten guineas be voted to the King Alfred commemoration fund, which was carried, a

discussion arose relating to the proposed museum as part of the memorial to the King. Lord Northbrook expressed his disapproval of this proposed museum, and the hon. organizing secretary, Mr. T. W. Shore, said that if such a museum were built, it would not be possible to fill it with Anglo-Saxon antiquities, on account of their rarity.



Reviews and Notices of New Books.

[*Publishers are requested to be so good as always to mark clearly the prices of books sent for review, as these notices are intended to be a practical aid to book-buying readers.*]

ANNALS OF COAL-MINING AND THE COAL TRADE.

THE INVENTION OF THE STEAM-ENGINE AND THE ORIGIN OF THE RAILWAY. By Robert L. Galloway. Cloth, demy 8vo, pp. xii, 533. Illustrations, plans, and maps. London: *The Colliery Guardian Company, Limited*, 1898. Price 16s. net.

In this large and full volume the author draws upon ample stores of learning. The book is simply crammed with detailed information relating to the origin and growth of coal-mining and the coal trade in Britain from the earliest, somewhat shadowy, indications of the use of coal in pre-Roman times down to the present day. These stores of information are rendered the more valuable by the careful and very commendable way in which Mr. Galloway gives chapter and verse for all his references. Any review in detail of such a book is impossible in the space at our command. It bristles with points of interest which relate, not only to the immediate subject—the history of coal-mining—but to the early history of the iron and other trades, and to many other matters. Side-lights are thrown on more than one aspect of our social history and development. On such points as the making of canals, the history of chimneys and the chimney-tax, or hearth-money, the history of the transport of coals by sea from Newcastle to London—on these and the like much that is new is set forth, together with matter that is more familiar to antiquaries. With regard to chimneys, it may be noted that it was their general adoption which removed at least one formidable obstacle to the growing use of coal as fuel. Some of the early chimneys were made of iron, and were movable. Iron was scarce and valuable, and these iron pots figure quaintly sometimes in old wills in the North of England among the goods entailed upon son after son in succession. In the later chapters of the book the history of the steam-engine, the locomotive, and the Davy lamp is fully treated. The long list of explosions and burnings from fire-damp—the earliest on record seems to have taken place at Gateshead in 1621—forms a melancholy chapter in the history of the wonderful coal industry. The book is well illustrated, the maps and plans being particularly well reproduced. The index is far from being as full

or complete as the index to a work so crowded with detail on so many different subjects should be. This fault should be remedied in any new edition that may be called for.

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CATALOGUE OF THE LIBRARY OF SYON MONASTERY, ISLEWORTH. Edited by Mary Bateson. Buckram, 8vo., pp. xxx, 262. Cambridge: University Press, 1898. Price 15s.

At last this catalogue, which has so long lain among the MSS. of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, has secured the immortality of print. The late Mr. Halliwell-Phillips, it is said, at one time intended to edit it, and occasional references to it by other scholars have made bibliographers aware of its value. Miss Bateson has now edited the catalogue—originally compiled early in the sixteenth century—in a very workmanlike manner. She has evidently spared no pains in the laborious task of identifying the editions of the volumes, and has been successful in a very large number of instances. The editor's introduction to the Catalogue brings out more than one point of interest. The library was essentially one of Latin books. There were very few in Greek, and not many more in English. In Italian there were none at all, Petrarch appearing as a Latin writer on the penitential psalms, and Boccaccio as the author of a dictionary of classical antiquities! In poetry and in history alike, Latin literature was strongly represented, while English and French writers made but a very poor show.

The indexes point to numerous losses, which Miss Bateson thinks were mainly due to the use of the Syon collection, like many other monastic libraries, as a lending library. It is possible, also, as the editor admits, that some gaps were due to the removal of supposedly dangerous books. The disappearance of Wyclif's books—their titles are in the index, but not in the catalogue—seems to point in this direction. Miss Bateson has made a noteworthy contribution to bibliographical literature.

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YORK: THE CATHEDRAL AND SEE. By A. Clutton-Brock, M.A. Cloth, crown 8vo., pp. 156. With forty-one illustrations. Bell's Cathedral Series. London: George Bell and Sons, 1899. Price 1s. 6d.

This is the latest volume of that excellently-conceived and admirably carried out series of monographs on the great English cathedrals which Messrs. George Bell and Sons are engaged in issuing for the especial benefit of that portion of the British public who in this nineteenth century stand for the pilgrims and palmers of bygone days. Hitherto visitors have been obliged, for the want of a better help, to "do" our great national shrines and sanctuaries with the assistance of the gentleman in black, the keeper of the fabric, and his marvellous rigrmarole of fact and fiction. By means of his excellent Handbooks to the Cathedrals the late Mr. John Murray materially improved matters; but excellent and valuable as they are in themselves for the full details and abundance of references which they contain, they are a trifle too heavy for the ordinary or tourist visitor, being adapted rather for the student than the holiday-maker. Some

kind of intermediate work was wanted, and this happy mean was struck when Messrs. Bell produced their "Cathedral Series" of accurate, well-written, and judiciously illustrated guide-books under the able editorship of the late Mr. Gleeson White and Mr. E. F. Strange, at a popular price and of handy dimensions.

The story of the Cathedral Church of York is the portion falling to the share of Mr. Clutton-Brock, and he has done his work well, and, by adhering strictly to the plan laid down by the publishers, has produced a guide-book, not only filled with such a measure of knowledge and scholarship as to make it of much value and use to historical, architectural, and archaeological students, but at the same time plain enough to be "understood of the people." In addition to this, the value of the book is heightened by copious, well-selected and admirably reproduced illustrations, which will be equally appreciated by the intelligent visitor and the art specialist. The chapter on the Archbishops of the See is not only interesting, but useful.

H. P. FEASEY.

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BEVERLEY MINSTER: AN ILLUSTRATED ACCOUNT OF ITS HISTORY AND FABRIC. By Charles Hiatt, author of *Chester: the Cathedral and See*. Forty-three illustrations. Cloth, 8vo., pp. 135. London: George Bell and Sons, 1898. Price 1s. 6d.

This is a monograph uniform with Messrs. Bell's "Cathedral Series." The author writes with commendable enthusiasm of the still beautiful minster. Curiously enough, this, "the most perfect church in England," has not received the attention which it undeniably deserves. Though never a cathedral church, it was one of the mother churches of the great diocese of York. In many ways it is a remarkable church—the choir and transepts some declare unsurpassed by any in Europe—representing as it does the perfection of Early English Gothic. With the Cathedral Church of York it has many points in common; both edifices have continuous roofs and double aisles to the central transept, the latter a rare feature. The western towers have been thought copies of those at York, but although they are apparently taller, they are really lower. It is possible that the west front of Beverley may have been suggested by that of the great Northern minster, but it is by no means a copy. Not only is it altogether more graceful and of loftier proportions than its great rival, but it is not improbable that the towers of Beverley were completed before the north-western tower of York was built. When the west front of Beverley was commenced, York was still without its western towers.

In the year 1050 it is recorded that Archbishop Cynesige added to the then minster a lofty stone (central?) tower, or campanile, in which it is believed he hung two large bells. Among the miracles of St. John, an account (dating in the reign of King John, 1199-1216) of the fall of this tower is related. From this account we learn that the old work was patched up, and a lofty and

beautiful tower carried up over the crossing; but the builders inserting their new work in the old, the piers, unable to bear the weight of the new tower, ultimately collapsed.

On page 32 the author says that the destruction of the fabric of the minster in the great fire of 1188 rendered the *rebuilding* of the church imperative, adding at the same time, "There seems no doubt that the Norman nave was left standing, and was possibly used until the building of the present nave in the fourteenth century. But it is more probable that it was replaced by a nave of the twelfth century." This statement is somewhat contradictory. An indulgence granted by Archbishop Walter Gray in 1232 speaks of the church as enormously disfigured by a sad ruin. It would seem that the nave was, comparatively speaking, uninjured by the fire of 1188, and that an attempt was made to repair the damages by the reconstruction of the existing work.

The *pulpitum* or rood-loft of Ælfric mentioned on p. 19 as adorned with "gold, silver, and brass," is expressly stated to have been of Teutonic workmanship, of which the work of Bishop Bernward at Hildesheim affords us an admirable example. The statement on p. 36, that the building of the minster "practically ceased between the years 1340-50," and that on p. 44, that the towers were probably commenced after the York towers—that is, after the year 1400*—seem to require some comparison and rectification. Maldon Priory (p. 18) should read Malton, and the "pairs of the nave" (p. 40) be corrected.

A valuable ground-plan of the minster is appended. We say valuable, as it is a question whether such a plan has hitherto been published.

H. P. FEASEY.

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ENGLISH CATHEDRALS ILLUSTRATED. By Francis Bond, M.A., F.G.S. With 188 illustrations from photographs. Crown 8vo., cloth extra, pp. xiii, 314. London: George Newnes, Limited, 1899. Price 6s.

What Messrs. George Bell and Sons have done individually with the cathedrals of England, Messrs. Newnes have done collectively. That is, in regard to their architectural character alone, for Mr. Bond's book is clearly one for the architect, or at least for the visitor with some knowledge of that art, and not for the ordinary tourist visitor. This book, says the author in his Introduction, is "an attempt to make the study of the English cathedrals more interesting," and to open the way to the understanding and more free enjoyment of the highest achievement of the English race in any branch of art—that of our mediæval architecture. With this object in view, he commences by falling foul of the ordinary guide-book of the regulation order, and condemns at the outset the "hop, skip and jump" arrangement which carries the visitor from the fourteenth to the fifteenth century, thence backwards to the twelfth, eleventh and thirteenth

* The central tower of York dates *circa* 1400-23, the south-west tower from 1433-47, and that of the north-west from 1470-74.

centuries, finally leaving him (shall we say in amazement or amusement?) in the midst of the work of the sixteenth. This arrangement, he admits, has to the visitor one merit—and that no inconsiderable one to the holiday-maker—of saving his legs. Mr. Bond, on the contrary, confesses boldly that he does not propose to study the visitor at all in this matter of "marching and counter-marching," hoping that there are some visitors who will not be deterred by a little bodily fatigue from studying the cathedrals aright. Having thus delivered himself, the visitor is taken in hand and conducted through the cathedrals of England and Wales—thirty-four in number—and excellently and agreeably instructed in their architectural history and characteristics under the heads of the different periods of their architecture. For the student of architecture, and those taking an interest in that branch of art, no better method of instruction could have been devised, but to the ordinary everyday visitor we are afraid it will prove but dry reading. It would have been to more advantage if the pictures selected for reproduction had been of a larger size, though fewer in number. A useful glossary is appended. An index would have been a valuable addition to the book, and a chapter on St. Peter's Abbey, Westminster, although a cathedral for only a short period, would not have been out of place.

H. P. FEASEY.

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RECORDS OF THE CHARITY KNOWN AS BLANCHMINSTER'S CHARITY, in the parish of Stratton, county of Cornwall, until the year 1832; with introduction and notes on the families of Turet, Blanchminster, Hiwis and Colshull. Compiled by R. W. Goulding. Cloth, 8vo., pp. 185. Louth: J. W. Goulding and Son, 1898.

The dry recital of the title gives but little idea of the varied interest of the pages of this book. Mr. Goulding has done his work thoroughly well. The latter half of the volume contains a catalogue of the MSS. relating to the Charity, Extracts from the Accounts, Legal Settlements, and other documentary matter. In the earlier pages the compiler gives a full and carefully written account of the origin and descent of the property, the founders of the charity, its management, income and expenditure, and early account-books. These pages are full of interest. The "distressed mariners, maimed soldiers and the like, who carried passports, testimonials, letters patent, or, as it is often put, who had the Queen's broad seal to beg, either for themselves or for others," and who abounded about the end of the sixteenth century, all knew of the Stratton charity, and found their way to the remote Cornish village in a constant stream of indigent folk. Mr. Goulding mentions such entries as "12d. to two men of Lincolnshire who were taken by the Spanish galleys that burned Penzance, 1595 . . . 6d. to a soldier who came from Sir Richard Grenville's ship," and in 1694 payments to enable two persons to go to the well of St. Columb the Lower to seek help for their legs. Hospitals and leper-houses were often helped. Very frequent payments were made in response to briefs. Among the items of expenditure for church purposes may

be noted in 1586 the purchase of candles to the value of 7*sd* to provide light when "we had morning prayer before day." Five boys singing in the choir at Christmas, 1570, received 1*sd*. More secular expenditure included payments for the bull-ring, the butts, the cucking-stool, stocks, and whipping-post, for the alms-houses, school-house, etc.; and even in 1625 and 1626 for killing foxes. The charity seems, indeed, to have touched the life of the community at every point—civil, ecclesiastical, social, national. At the present day the income of the charity estate amounts to about £600 per annum. A first charge on the receipts is the maintenance and improvement of the property, on which there are more than seventy houses. The remainder is spent in doles to the poor, and in contributions to various local charitable objects. Stratton is to be congratulated on the flourishing state of its charity, and the trustees, or feoffees, are to be congratulated on having placed the examination and transcription of their records in the thoroughly capable hands of Mr. Goulding.

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ROMAN RIBCHESTER; being the Report of Excavations made on the site during 1898. By John Garstang. Preston: George Toulmin and Sons; London and Oxford: James Parker and Co. Price 2*s.* net.

Readers of Mr. Garstang's interesting article in the March *Antiquary* will find in this pamphlet report a wealth of detail regarding the successful excavations at Ribchester. Mr. Garstang outlines the history of Ribchester in Roman times, and then gives a full and valuable report of the excavations under the headings: I. Visible Roman Remains; II. Outline of the Camp, including the Wells, the Ditch or Fosse, the North, West, South, and East Corners, with Conclusions drawn from a Study of the Facts detailed; III. The Interior; IV. External Excavations, including Burial-ground, Roman Roads, and the Earthwork at Mellor, a small entrenchment on the hills to the south declared to be not Roman, but comparatively modern. Besides several illustrations in the text, there are four plates showing respectively a Plan of Roman Ribchester, a Central Plan, Relics in Pottery, and Relics in Metal. Mr. Garstang has prepared a report of the greatest interest and value, a copy of which should be in the possession of every archaeologist.

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THE RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS. By "X." Cloth, 8vo., pp. xvi, 183. London: Elliot Stock, 1899. Price 6*s.*

This book is an amplification of a series of papers which appeared some little time ago in the *Genealogical Magazine* as a result of the stir caused by certain articles by "X" in the *Saturday Review*, wherein the writer called in question the right of many well-known people to the arms they use. All who are interested in genuine heraldry will welcome this book, which is written in a lively and interesting manner, calculated to attract even those who, with Harry Hotspur, look upon heraldic lore as "such a deal of skimble-skamble stuff." For students the value of the volume is increased by the reprints (with translations) of early armorial

edicts, grants of arms and of augmentations of arms, and other documents, which the author gives *in extenso*. Particularly interesting are the copy of the letters patent hereditarily vesting the office of Earl Marshal in the Howard Family, granted by Charles II., and the copy of the earliest charter of incorporation to the Heralds, dated the first year of Richard III.'s reign. The author shows how that in England from an early period—from 1418 at least—the control of arms has been both theoretically and in fact vested in the Sovereign, how in exceptional cases the Sovereign has reserved and still exercises the prerogative to act direct, how "the working, control, and supervision has been and still is in England delegated by the Sovereign to the Earl Marshal and the officers of Arms, and how by grants and by the Visitations with the powers of defacement and disclaimer this supervision has been exercised." The latter part of the book deals with the "Right to bear Arms" in Scotland and in Ireland. The style, brisk and lively on the whole, might have been made a little less colloquial in one or two places. Such phrases as "I don't care a hang," "bogus baronets," "fishy individuals" who have "never paid a sou," seem somewhat unnecessarily slangy.

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We have received the portly volume of BYEGONES RELATING TO WALES AND THE BORDER COUNTIES, 1897-98 (Vol. V., Second Series). Like its predecessors, it is a valuable collection *de omnibus rebus* connected with the district named. Words and phrases, wills, natural history, marriages, books, societies, antiquarian discoveries, and endless other matters of local interest—which are often of general interest also—find a place within the book's 552 pages. A full and classified index provides the necessary key to the volume.

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We have on our table several magazines and pamphlets. The *Ulster Journal of Archaeology* (Vol. V., Part II.) for February, 1899, contains, *inter alia*, "Leather Finds in Peat Bogs," by W. J. Knowles; a continuation of Captain Berry's "Royal Residence of Rathmore of Moy-linne"; "The Connor Ogams, County Antrim," by Robert Cochrane, F.S.A.; and "Vestry Book of . . . Ballywalter, Ballyhalbert, and Inishargie, in the Ardes, Co. Down, 1706," by the Rev. Charles Scott. Among various quaint entries noted in the last-named paper may be mentioned, "1779. To finish the leaping-on stone, 2*s.* 8*sd.*," doubtless to facilitate getting on horseback. The illustrations are, as usual, numerous and good.

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Among the contents of the *Genealogical Magazine* (London, Stock) for March are papers on "The Pedigree of Pym of Brymore, 1643," by Walter Crouch; "The New 'Debrett'"; "The First Railway Arms," granted to the Great Central Railway, with a locomotive-engine proper, between two wings or for crest! "Buchanan Genealogies"; and a continuation of Mr. Wade-Walpole's "Notes on the Walpoles." The April number of the same magazine has an article translated from the French of M. A. de Royer on "Is there a French Nobility?" and the following papers, among others: "De

Bellamonte and Hamilton," by John Hamilton; "The Seals of the Diocese of Bath and Wells," by J. Gale Pedrick; "Gretna Green"; and continuations of "Notes on the Walpoles"; "Duchy of Lancaster Inquisitions Post-mortem," by Ethel Stokes; "The Lords and Marquises of Raineval in Picardy," by the Marquis de Ruvigny and Raineval, etc. A reproduction of "A Gretna Green Marriage Certificate" forms an interesting frontispiece.

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The *Reliquary and Illustrated Archaeologist* (London, Bemrose) for April is an excellent number. Mr. F. R. Coles follows up his article on Scottish distaffs by a fully-illustrated paper on "The Decoration of Scottish Spindles and Whorls." Mr. H. P. Feasey gives the first part of a paper on "The Instrument of the Rosary," which is full of matter of value and interest to the ecclesiologist. Other well-illustrated articles are: "The 'Bat House,' near Ambergate, Derbyshire," by John Ward, F.S.A.; "The Abbey of Timoleague," by H. Elrington; and "Early Christian Art in Ireland—Bas-relief on Cross at Monasterboice," by Margaret Stokes, with some quaint pictures. Among the "Archaeological Notes," also fully illustrated, is a valuable list of bronze war trumpets found in Ireland, with place and exact reference given in each case.

* * *

The Downside Review, Vol. XVIII., March, 1899; Downside College, Bath.—When we took up this review, we did so in the firm conviction that it was "yet another new venture." A nearer acquaintance assured us that it was within a year or so of attaining its majority. That so excellent a three-quarterly should so long have hidden itself from the public ken is somewhat remarkable. Its character partakes of the ecclesiastical, historical, ecclesiastical, and archaeological nature. Under its able editor the review deserves a wider recognition from the outside world than it has yet received. The learned Benedictine Dom Pasquet and other of his fellows are constantly contributing the results of their researches, travels, etc., to its pages, being assisted in other departments by their friends. The print, paper, and pictures are all good. The subscription is moderate at 5s. a year.

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The following reports have reached us: *British Museum and Reference Library: Report of the Museum Committee for the Two Years to September 30, 1898*, a record of much useful work; *Annual Report of the Sidcup Literary and Scientific Society*, containing papers on "Alphabets," "Surnames of Sidcup," "Ruxley," and "Fooths Cray in Domesday Book"; *Transactions of the Burton-on-Trent Natural History and Archaeological Society* for Session 1896-1897 (Vol. IV., Part I.), containing "The Burton Parish Registers (Part III.," by the Rev. Vicars A. Boyle, M.A., "The Burton Abbey Dissolution Inventories," by Henry A. Rye, and other papers.

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We have also received a paper of much interest on "The 'Old Minster,' South Elmham," by the Rev. John James Raven, D.D., F.S.A., reprinted from the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and Natural History*.

Correspondence.

MR. A. J. C. HARE'S "SHROPSHIRE."

TO THE EDITOR.

THIS "glorified guidebook," to quote from a review in the *Scotsman* of another book of the same author, is valuable as an illustration of the depths to which an inaccurate mind may let a clever man fall. The work is interesting and full of well-chosen extracts, many of them from Miss Burne's *Shropshire Folklore*, but it is difficult to find a page of original matter that does not contain some error, greater or less. We are not aware whether or not Mr. Hare is an archaeologist, but certainly no man who aspires to write a guidebook should in these modern days confuse friaries with monasteries, and both with collegiate churches, as Mr. Hare does in his list of such buildings on page 4. It seems also a little behind the times to speak of "leper windows" in several churches, but, still, that term is perhaps allowable. The county of Salop is indignant at the inaccurate account of its places of interest, as, for instance, in the case of the old home of the Fitz-Warins at Whittington. On page 215 we are told that the "last Fulke Fitz-Warine died in 1615, after which it passed to Sir William Bouchem, who became Earl of Bath, and exchanged it for other lands with Henry VIII." After this remarkable statement, and the curious version of Sir William Bourchier's name, the account of the manor proceeds correctly, but apparently without the author finding out that on page 174 he has already given details of the history of Whittington, under the head of Alberbury, a manor that passed from the elder branch of Fitz-Warin at the close of the thirteenth century, and had quite a different descent from that of Whittington. The account of Shrewsbury is full of similar misstatements. We are told in one place that the scanty remains of the Franciscan friary are now cottages, and then in another that nothing is left of the Grey Friars' house! We have in its proper place a correct description of a fine timber house in Butcher Row, and then half a dozen pages on is a sentence which seems to allude to it, though it runs as follows: "On *Pride Hill*, to the right, is the Guildhouse of the Maternity of Holy Cross, a remarkable timber building, sometimes thought to have been the town-house of the Abbots of Lilleshall." The fine Church of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, possesses an east window of English glass, representing the tree of Jesse, which, tradition says, was originally in the church of the Grey Friars, from which it was taken to the old Church of St. Chad, and finally found rest in St. Mary's. Mr. Hare calls this Flemish glass, though he tells of its gift by Sir John de Charlton in the fourteenth century to the Grey Friars. Then, having left St. Mary's, and come to a description of the abbey church, which has a modern east end, with three narrow lancets, he says: "The lower part of the great east window—a Jesse window—was brought from St. Chad's." These are but specimens, and might be multiplied, and we might add to them a number of derivations of place-names which will not stand

the test of local knowledge. We may mention that in almost every case where Shropshire possesses two places of the same name, Mr. Hare has confused them; and he locates the Cluniac cell of Preen, near Wenlock, at Prees, near Whitchurch; and the church of Horderley at Horderley, which does not possess one. The plan of the book, which is good, is marred by a twofold allusion to an imaginary railway-station at Cound, and an equally imaginary junction at Whittington. These are not, however, archaeological matters, but the statement on page 282, that Eytون-on-Severn, the country seat of the Abbots of Shrewsbury, "took its name from owners resident here from the time of Henry I," deserves comment from an archaeological standpoint. The Shropshire Eytونs were seated at Eytون-on-the-Weald-Moors, many miles from the Severn, and we have yet to learn that the place took its name from the family, and not the family from the place! In the preface to the book Mr. Hare asks for corrections and additions to be notified to him. We hope that someone well acquainted with the county will be good enough to give him a list, but we fear that that will mean the re-writing of the book before it can become a guide of any value to the public.

SALOPIENSIS.

BESANT'S "SOUTH LONDON."

TO THE EDITOR.

My attention has been called to an error in an otherwise admirable criticism of this book by Mr. Fairman Ordish, F.S.A., which, I think, is of sufficient importance to warrant a correction. In the *Antiquary* for March last he says: "Now, if the London antiquary will look into Thornbury and Walford's *Old and New London* and Walford's *Greater London*, he will find no account of Bermondsey Abbey in either of these works." In my copy of Thornbury and Walford's *Old and New London*, which, though undated, was, I know, published by Messrs. Cassell at a date prior to 1878, I find in the sixth volume, the tenth chapter of which is headed, "Bermondsey Abbey" (sic), a fairly detailed account of it from its foundation, and the grant of the Manor of Bermondsey to the abbey, down to the dissolution, temp. Henry VIII., and the grant to Sir Robert Southwell, together with a view of the remains of Bermondsey Abbey in 1790 A.D., and other matter which space prevents my quoting here, but which your readers can easily verify. In *Greater London*, which practically covers the "outer belt," the description of the south bank of the Thames commences as far down as Woolwich, so one would not expect to find any mention of Bermondsey therein. The history of the Priory of St. Saviour's, Bermondsey, has been long and intimately connected with that of Kent. The parish church of Shorne, near Gravesend, with its great tithes, and the advowson of the vicarage, were vested in this priory in 33 Henry I. by a grant from the King, confirmed by the Bishop of Rochester. There is also a curious little out-lying chapel of St. Katherine at Shorne (now happily rescued from ruin and restored to proper uses), which was possibly a cell or direct dependency of St. Saviour's; and Stow, in his *Survey of*

London, also mentions the priory, so that the expression a "forgotten monastery" seems somewhat misplaced.

HAROLD SANDS.

Craythorne, Tenterden, Kent,
March 21, 1899.

We submitted this letter to Mr. Ordish, who replies as follows:

"I am much obliged to Mr. Sands for pointing out an error which I very much regret. As I specially consulted both books on the subject, I can only suppose that I afterwards misread my notes. The error was quite accidental, and not due to any wish to disparage the works in question."

THE ETYMOLOGY OF "SILCHESTER."

TO THE EDITOR.

Mr. Davis's *Romano-British City of Silchester*, reprinted from *Bygone Hampshire*, provides interesting reading, specially for those who have had an opportunity of visiting the famous site; but it is unfortunately marred by some exceedingly loose remarks on place-names, which are likely to lead the unwary astray.

The author says that "the Saxon name *Selceaster* may, with very little risk of error, be translated the dwelling-house city, the prefix being the Anglo-Saxon word *sel*, a seat, a dwelling, a mansion, a palace, a hall; and the postfix the Anglo-Saxon word *ceaster*, a city, a town, a fort." He adds that he gives this etymology with some confidence because the foundations of some forty houses have been discovered at Silchester, "thus aptly confirming the fitness and relevancy of the definition"! This is very peculiar reasoning. What on earth does the word "city" mean, if it does not in itself imply the existence of dwellings for its inhabitants?

The fact is that, as in the case of most of the other -chesters and -esters in this country, the first element of "Silchester" is beyond all reasonable doubt a relic of Celtic nomenclature, and probably not unconnected with the old name "Calleva" (Attrebatum). If *castra* can become *ester*, it is clear that, under certain circumstances, there is nothing to prevent *cell* (Welsh *cell-i*, Gaelic *coil*, a wood) becoming *cell*, i.e., *sell*, especially when there is reason to think, as Professor Rhys pointed out years ago, that confusion has here arisen with Latin *cella*, cell, or perhaps with Latin *silva*, wood.

"The town of the wood," corresponding to Woodchester in Gloucestershire, is, I venture to suggest, the only reasonable etymology that can be put forward for Silchester. It remains to be added that visitors to Silchester at the present day almost invariably comment delightedly upon the size, beauty, and number of the oak-trees in the vicinity.

As to Mr. Davis's extraordinary assertion that "not a single Roman place-name has survived" in this country, there is, *inter alia*, the classic instance to the contrary, almost within gunshot of Silchester, of Speen—Latin *Spina*, The Thorns.

HY. HARRISON.

NOTE TO PUBLISHERS.—We shall be particularly obliged to publishers if they will always state the price of books sent for review.